FRIDAY
September 15, 2023

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NEARBY

Water levels in 3 key Cauvery basin dams below 10-year average

MYSURU
As the State government declared drought in 195 taluks and is locking horns with Tamil Nadu on release of water, the levels in the Cauvery basin reservoirs continue to plummet. » PAGE 8

Govt. officially declares 195 taluks as drought-hit

BENGALURU
A day after the Cabinet panel's meeting, the Karnataka government on Thursday issued an official order declaring 195 taluks in the State as drought-hit, including nine taluks surrounding the capital city. » PAGE 8

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Jana Sena, TDP to fight 2024 A.P. polls together

JSP leader Pawan Kalyan announces move after meeting TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu in prison; he says a proposal has been tabled before PM Narendra Modi to bring the BJP too into the alliance

T. Appala Naidu
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

JSP chief K. Pawan Kalyan with TDP leaders Nandamuri Balakrishna and Nara Lokesh in Rajamundry on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jana Sena Party (JSP) president K. Pawan Kalyan on Thursday announced that his party and the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) would form an alliance and together contest against the YSR Congress Party in the 2024 Assembly election in Andhra Pradesh.

Mr. Kalyan made the announcement immediately after meeting former Chief Minister and TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu, who is lodged at the Rajamundry Central Prison. "The decision has been taken only keeping in view the welfare of the people of the State. It is not meant for political mileage," Mr. Kalyan said.

Mr. Kalyan, along with Mr. Naidu's son Nara Lokesh and brother-in-law and actor Nandamuri Balakrishna, held talks for about 45 minutes with the former Chief Minister in the prison.

Tri-party alliance

On communicating the proposal of the alliance to the BJP, Mr. Kalyan said: "I have already proposed the idea of forming an alliance with JSP, TDP and BJP. The idea has been tabled before Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I hope that the BJP will also agree to this proposal for the tri-party alliance for the 2024 elections in Andhra Pradesh."

"On September 10, the Jagan Mohan Reddy-led State government and police officials stopped me on the Andhra-Telangana border while I was proceeding towards Vijayawada. The government and police created an environment of 'civil war', in which our party had to confront with the police. However, we did not wish to fight a civil war," Mr. Kalyan said, on what drove him to the decision.

"The arrest of people like former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu sends a signal that democracy is in danger in Andhra Pradesh. The YSRCP has created an environment based on which I had to take a decision for the alliance with the TDP," said Mr. Kalyan.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Disintegrating *Sanatana Dharma* is hidden agenda of INDIA bloc, says Modi

Shubhomoy Sikdar
KANKER/RAIPUR

Poll pitch: Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves at the public in Bina district of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday. PTI

Launching a frontal attack on the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday accused it of having the hidden agenda of "disintegrating *Sanatana Dharma*".

He made his remarks criticising the Opposition on the ongoing *Sanatana* row while addressing rallies in Madhya Pradesh's Bina district and Chhattisgarh's Raigarh.

Mr. Modi, who had earlier told his ministerial colleagues that Tamil Nadu Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin's remarks comparing *Sanatana Dharma* to diseases such as dengue required a "proper response", took up the attacking role himself.

"By wiping off *Sanatana* they want to push the country towards one thousand years of slavery again. But we have to join forces to stop such powers. With our organisational might and our unity in every corner of the country, we have to foil their plans," said Mr. Modi while addressing the public in Bina after laying foundation stone for projects worth ₹50,000 crore.

He also invoked a host of historical and mythological figures to underscore that *Sanatana* represented "thoughts, values, and traditions that have connected India for thousands of years". "*Sanatana* culture was a reflection of Dalit icon Saint Ravidas. It had inspired Mahatma Gandhi to run a movement against untouchability...," said Mr. Modi.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Six children among 12 missing as boat capsizes in Bihar

Tragedy strikes: Local residents gather near the bank of the Bagmati after a boat capsized in the river in Muzaffarpur district of Bihar on Thursday. ANI

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

At least 12 people, including six children, went missing after a boat carrying over 30 people capsized in the Bagmati river in Muzaffarpur district of Bihar on Thursday.

It is learnt that the missing children were crossing the river on the boat to attend their school located on the other side when the incident happened.

Separate teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) launched a rescue operation. "Nearly 20 people have been rescued," said NDRF official Randhir Singh.

Muzaffarpur District Magistrate Pranav Kumar said the rescue operation will continue.

"Senior district administration officials are camping at the incident site," he added.

One of the district officials camping at the site, addressing the local media, denied the reports that the missing children were on their way to school.

"I spoke to the school teachers and authorities and they denied that the children were coming to the school today. The children were not in school uniform," he said, on condition of anonymity.

The local villagers, however, asserted that the children were on the boat to attend their classes when the boat capsized mid-stream.

The other children who were rescued in the incident too said they were going to attend the school.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Govt. to explain pricing of key life-saving drugs

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Union government has agreed to place on record in the Supreme Court its mechanism for controlling the price of life-saving and essential drugs.

Appearing before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati said on Wednesday that the government would file an updated affidavit.

The court listed the petition filed by All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN), represented by senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, on October 4. In November 2022, the government had revised the list and prices of essential medicines. Under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order of 2013, the work of revising the applicable ceiling price of notified drugs was initiated by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

IS terror 'conspirator' from Shivamogga held in Delhi on his return from Kenya

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/SHIVAMOGGA

Arafath Ali, a native of Tirthahalli, had been absconding since 2020

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday arrested an alleged key Islamic State terror conspirator hailing from Karnataka after he arrived at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport from Nairobi in Kenya.

Arafath Ali, a native of Tirthahalli in Shivamogga district, had been absconding since 2020, and has been operating from abroad to promote the anti-India terror agenda of the banned outfit.

He was taken into custody the moment he landed at the airport.

He has been accused of indulging in Islamic State propaganda activities and planning terrorist acts, according to NIA.

The agency, through a statement, said that he was allegedly involved in "the identification, radicalisation, and recruitment of gullible Muslim youth into the IS fold while working from abroad".

He had moved to Dubai after completing a diploma course in electronics at Sahyadri Polytechnic College in Tirthahalli, where his father Ahmed Bava runs a beeda shop in front of a hotel.

Cooker blast case

In the Shivamogga terror conspiracy case, an accused named Mohamed Shariq had been on his way to plant a pressure cooker bomb at Kadri Manjunatha Temple (Mangaluru) when the improvised explosive device exploded accidentally in an autorickshaw, it is alleged.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 4

Govt. limits wheat stocks to control price rise, hoarding

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The revised stock limit is 2,000 Metric Tonne, which had been 3,000 MT so far. REUTERS

Sensing an upward movement in wheat prices and fearing hoarding ahead of the festive season, the Union government has decided to reduce the stock limits of wheat for traders, wholesalers, retailers, big chain retailers and processors in all States and Union Territories.

The revised stock limit is 2,000 Metric Tonne (MT) which had been 3,000 MT so far. Briefing the media about the decision, Union Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra blamed "artificial scarcity" created by some people, behind the uptick in prices.

The government has asked all wheat-stocking entities to register on the wheat stock limit portal and update the stock position every Friday. "Any entity which is found to have not registered on the portal or violates the stock limits will be subject to suitable punitive action under Section 6 & 7 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955," the Food Ministry said in a release.

It added that in case the stocks are at present higher than the prescribed limit, the sellers should bring it down within next 30 days. "Officials of Central and State Governments will be closely monitoring enforcement of these stock limits to ensure that no artificial scarcity of wheat is created in the country," the release said.

Mr. Chopra said some people are holding wheat more than what they need, with prices going up. "Currently, wheat prices at retail level are ruling stable at ₹30 per kilogram, on an average. But we are anticipating that with this uptick in the NCDEX prices, there may be a reflection of these prices in the retail market," he said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Food price rise to narrow wholesale price deflation

NEW DELHI
Wholesale prices stood almost flat in August, declining 0.5%, and are likely to swing back into inflationary mode in September after five months, thanks to rising prices of crude oil, cereals, pulses and vegetables. » PAGE 17

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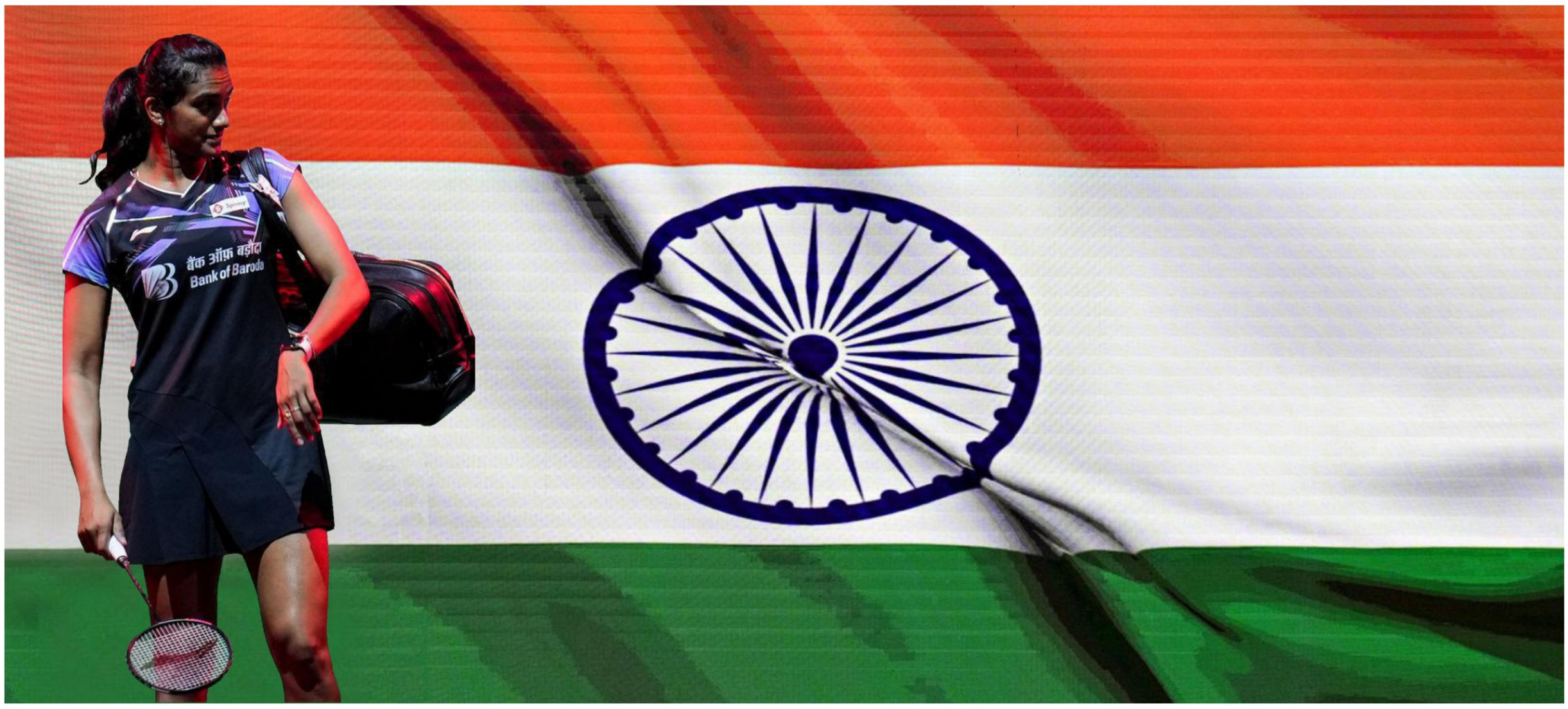

A test for the faithful

As the shuttlers fly to Hangzhou for the Asian Games, there is hope (Chirag-Satwik and Prannoy) and anxiety (Sindhu and Srikanth) for a nation that has witnessed sensational success in badminton in recent times at the global level

Lavanya Lakshmi Narayanan

In 2013, Brazilian Genildo Ronchi published a cartoon titled *As vezes só depende de nós* (Sometimes it just depends on us) of two men in a bus, one looking at a sunlit scenery with a smile on his face and the other facing a rock wall looking desolate. This piece of art applies sums up the mood of the 19-member Indian badminton contingent heading to Hangzhou for the 2023 Asian Games.

In top form

This has been an interesting year for Indian badminton. H.S. Prannoy's resurgence in men's singles has seen him break out of the 'fringe player' mould, starting from his clutch performances in India's Thomas Cup triumph last year. More recently, he finished with a bronze at the BWF World Championships after sending out the erstwhile world champion Viktor Axelsen on home turf. Prannoy, World no.7 now, is India's highest ranked men's singles player.

The most potent weapon in India's arsenal is the doubles duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy. The pair's imperious show was bookended by a gold medal in the 2022 Commonwealth Games and was followed by titles at the Swiss Open and Indonesia Open. The historic gold at the Badminton Asia Championships was easily their most coveted triumph.

India's best result in the Asian Games is P.V. Sindhu's silver in the 2014 Incheon Games and 'Sat-Chi' look best placed to go where no Indian has. Dhruv Kapila and M.R. Arjun is India's second entry in doubles. A combination forged by P. Gopi Chand, the two have played together for a few years, challenging higher-ranked opponents and proving they could be formidable on their day.

Young guns Lakshya Sen and Mithun Manjunath round off India's squad in the men's team event. The former withdrew from the Hong Kong Open Super 500 to nurse a minor neck strain. The 2021 World bronze medallist won the Canada Open this year but crashed out of the World Championship in the round of 16. An aggressive player who thrives on pace, Lakshya will eye a ranking improvement too and his ability to control a match and stay calm under pressure will come in handy.

In National champion Mithun, India has a fearless attacking option. 2022 was a big year for the 25-year-old as he vaulted 100 spots in the world rankings (133 to 33). Last month, though Mithun knocked out former World champion Loh Kean Yew 21-19, 21-19, the win was emblematic of his tendency to squander early leads.

On the same boat

Only top-20 players are handed direct entries into the Asian Games, forcing K. Srikanth to fight for a spot in singles, via the trials route, for the first time in his career. The Guntur shuttler has been struggling with a slump in form for a few seasons now, triggered by a slew of injuries.

In May, Srikanth sought the assistance of Indonesian coach Wiempie Nahardi, keeping the 2024 Paris Olympics in mind. He will have to rely on his fitness and experience to conquer his demons and his opponents.

Srikanth's struggles have found a sympathetic shoulder in Sindhu who has probably had one of the worst years of her career so far. After the high of a gold at the 2022 Birmingham Games, Sindhu's early tournament jitters have seen her make first-round exits at seven BWF Tour events this season.

A combination of bad luck and poor net play has been Sindhu's undoing. Given her height and aerial prowess, she draws strength from rallies, but defence has been a chink in her armour. Once that hits her confidence, the opponent needs to do little to get the double Olympic medallist to buckle mentally.

Sindhu, now under new coach Muhammad Hafiz Hashim of Malaysia, has approached Prakash Padukone for assistance.

"She is low on confidence and physically and mentally in a poor state. She has some work to do and we shouldn't expect much from her at the Asian Games," said Vimal Kumar, director, Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy.

Chance to shine

There could be no better opportunity for Ashmita Chaliha to announce herself on the global stage. The 23-year-old from Assam won the selection trials and was named India's second singles player. Being a left-hander with a physical style of play, she is expected to be a key member in the team event.

Anupama Upadhyaya and Malvika Bansod complete India's women's quartet. Malvika has given the Indian badminton community plenty to hope for when she made two-time World champion Akane Yamaguchi sweat at the Asian Championships.

Anupama was crowned National champion this year but Hangzhou will be a different ball game as the China-Indonesia sway will leave little room for the others. The teenager has her sights set on the Paris Olympics and the Asian Games will be a dress rehearsal.

The 2022 Commonwealth bronze medallists Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly are on the younger side in the age and experience spectrum in Hangzhou. Gayatri's strength lies in placement and finding gaps to stun the opponents while Treesa's pressing play down the middle helps her gather pace when smashing home a winner. At the other end is the experienced Ashwini Ponnappa who now has Tanisha Crasto by her side in women's doubles.

Tanisha will also partner K. Sai Pratheek in the mixed doubles category which will also see Rohan Kapoor and N. Sikki Reddy team up. Tanisha is defensively solid and confident at the net, with Ashwini guarding the backline and getting into the act on aerial rallies. Her pairing with Sai Pratheek has not been as smooth with basic errors creeping in and taking games away from them. Facing a high standard of competition will help the pair's development.

This mixed bag of form and fortune makes the Asian Games a litmus test not just for the players who have Olympic qualification pressure dangling over them, but also for those who cheer them on. For a country that took to India's successes in badminton instantly, failure is often seen as the lack of will and skill to dominate.

'Insanely critical'

Gopi Chand drew attention to the big picture at a *Sportstar* Conclave event in Hyderabad recently.

"99% of sportspersons fail. If you lose in the quarterfinals, it draws criticism. How many doctors can call themselves top eight in the world, how many lawyers or bureaucrats can do that? We've been insanely critical of sport. To be the best 150, 200 in the world should be celebrated and we should celebrate ourselves a lot more," said Gopi Chand. Taking the extra effort to look for the silver lining will be a lesson for the Indians on their Chinese sojourn.

The Asian Games returns to China after 13 years and two editions – a country whose hegemony in badminton at the continental level is underlined by 107 medals (43 gold, 29 silver and 35 bronze). The Chinese are generously sprinkled in the top-10 of the BWF rankings across categories and will look to make the home Asian Games another memorable one.

With formidable contenders who need to find their rhythm and a bit of luck, India will hope to challenge the Chinese giant in Hangzhou.

THE GIST

India's medal cabinet

Silver: P.V. Sindhu (women's singles, 2018, Jakarta)

Bronze: Davinder Ahuja, Partho Ganguli, Raman Ghosh, Dinesh Khanna, Prakash Padukone (men's team, 1974, Tehran)

Leroy D'Sa, Pradeep Gandhe, Partho Ganguli, Syed Modi, Uday Pawar, Vikram Singh (men's team, 1982, New Delhi); Vandana Chiplunkar, Ami Ghia, Madhumita Goswami, Amita Kulkarni, Hufrish Nariman, Kanwal Thakar Singh (women's team, 1982, New Delhi); Syed Modi (men's singles, 1982, New Delhi); D'Sa and Gandhe (men's doubles, 1982, New Delhi); D'Sa and Kanwal Thakar Singh (mixed doubles, 1982, New Delhi)

D'Sa, Vimal Kumar, Ravi Kunte, Sanat Misra, Syed Modi, Padukone, Pawar (men's team, 1986, Seoul)

Pradnya Gadre, Tanvi Lad, Saina Nehwal, Ashwini Ponnappa, N. Sikki Reddy, Sindhu, P.C. Thulasi (women's team, 2014, Incheon)

Saina Nehwal (women's singles, 2018, Jakarta)

GAME TIME

Test yourself on some assorted trivia and questions across various sports and games

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1

If C.K. Nayudu was the first captain of the Indian men's Test cricket team, who was it for women?

QUESTION 2

Which sporting equipment once had names like Brassie, Spoon, Mashie, and Niblick?

QUESTION 3

Apart from Graham and Damon Hill, which is the only other father-son duo to win F1 World Championships?

QUESTION 4

Roman Sebrle (Cze), Ashton Eaton (USA) and Kevin Mayer (Fra) are the only three athletes to breach what mark?

QUESTION 5

In which event at the Budapest World Athletics championships, did one country win all the three medals? Name the country also.

QUESTIONS 6

In late August 2023, a world record for attendance at a women's sporting event was set in the match between Nebraska Cornhuskers and Omaha Mavericks with more than 92,003 spectators in attendance. What was the sport being played?

QUESTION 7

'Satchmo' was the nickname of a world-famous entertainer who was not a sportsperson but has a stadium named after him because he resided close to the sporting venue. Name the entertainer.

QUESTION 8

Apart from Manchester, which is the only other city to produce two UEFA Champions League champions?

QUESTION 9

Nilesh Kulkarni is the only Indian male to have what rare distinction in a Test match, achieving the feat against Sri Lanka in August 1997.

QUESTION 10

What sporting term literally means 'to fish up again' in French?

Question 11: Identify the sportsperson and what is the significance of the photograph? AP

THE ANSWERS

1. Shanta Rangaswamy, 2. Golf clubs, 3. Keke and Nico Rosberg, 4. 9000 points in decathlon, 5. Women's 10,000m with Ethiopia's Gudaf Tsegay, Letesenbet Gidey, and Ejgayehu Taye having podium finishes, 6. Volleyball, 7. Louis Armstrong who lived close to where the US Open is played, 8. Milan, 9. Wicket with the first ball in international cricket, 10. Repechage, 11. Wilt Chamberlain after he became the first (and the only player still) to score 100 points in an NBA game.

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DULT to set up e-bicycle system in Malleswaram for better connectivity

An Expression of Interest to establish an electric PBS system for servicing ward numbers 45 and 55 was recently invited

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

To improve the Public Bicycle Sharing (PBS) system in Bengaluru, the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) will set up a pedal assisted bicycles (e-bicycles) system in Malleshwaram .

The DULT recently invited Expression of Interest (EOI) to establish an electric PBS system for servicing ward numbers 45 and 55 in the Malleshwaram locality. According to DULT authorities, the primary objective of implementing the e-bicycle system is to address the connectivity challenges for the first and last mile within the neighborhood.

"For this, DULT is collaborating with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) (the German development agency) and Bosch Ltd under the aegis of Green Urban Mobility innovation Living Lab (GUMI-LL) to develop sustainable, inclusive and smart mobility solutions through a multi-stakeholder platform," the DULT stated in the EOI document.

A senior DULT official said, "DULT and GUMI-LL are collaborating closely with the Malleshwaram community to introduce a PBS system featuring pedal-assisted bicycles (e-bicycles). The objective of the project is to promote cycling for first and last mile trips within the neighborhood by providing shared electric bicycles."

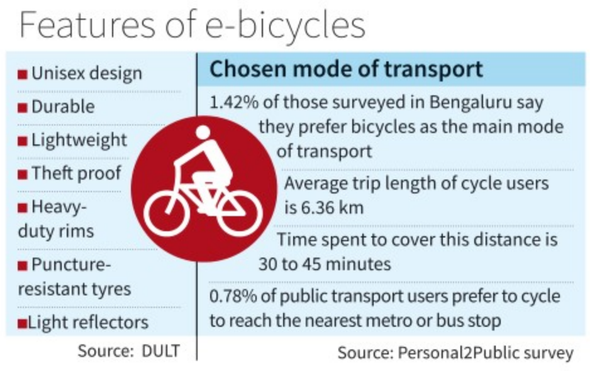
Operators interested should be able to do so for three years after installation. According to DULT, the components of the electric bicycles include having basic specifications like unisex design, durable, lightweight, theft proof, heavy-duty rims, puncture resistant tires, light reflectors and LED lights to make the bicycles more visible to vehicles during night.

Suchithra Prasad, a resident of Malleshwaram, termed it a welcome initiative. "It is a welcome initiative in our neighborhood. It promises to enhance our daily commute by addressing first and last-mile connectivity issues. These pedal-assisted bicycles will not only reduce traffic congestion, but also contribute to a cleaner and greener environment. I look forward to the positive impact it will bring to our community," she said.

Another resident, Dhanush K.B., said, "The PBS initiative in Malleshwaram is commendable, and we should consider expanding it to other parts of the area, particularly connecting to metro stations. Since the closest metro stations for Malleshwaram residents are Mantri Mall station, and Srirampura, implementing PBS at these metro stations would be a valuable solution to address the last-mile connectivity challenge."

In a recent Personal2Public (P2P) survey report by NGOs, including the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) and WRI India, only 1.42% of the people prefer bicycles as the main mode of transport in the city. The report states that the average trip length of cycle users is 6.36 km and the time spent to cover this distance is 30 to 45 minutes. Around 0.78% of existing public transport users prefer to cycle to reach the nearest metro or bus stop.

"Half the responders to the P2P survey live within 3 km of a metro station. 22% of those already own a bicycle. If metro provides safe bicycle parking in metro stations we will be able to solve the first-mile problem at zero cost compared to any other shared mode. If companies within 3kms of a metro station provided shared bicycles to employees on the other end which can be parked in the metro stations, we would have solved end mile problems at the lowest cost, most efficient and carbon neutral way for lakhs of people who take the Metro everyday," said Sathya Sankaran, Bicycle Mayor Bengaluru.



Nipah: State Health Department issues surveillance guidelines

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In view of four confirmed Nipah cases and two deaths reported in Kozhikode district of Kerala, the State Health Department has issued surveillance guidelines to prevent the spread of the disease in Karnataka.

According to the guidelines issued after a video conference with officials on Wednesday, the general public has been advised to avoid unnecessary travel to the affected areas in Kerala.

While districts have been directed to set up check posts for fever surveillance at the entry points from Karnataka to Kerala, officials have been directed to intensify fever surveillance in the border districts - Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Kodagu, and Dakshina Kannada.

To avoid unnecessary panic, officials have been asked to educate the public about the Nipah virus.

Health Commissioner Randeep D., said all private hospitals, nursing homes, and clinics have been directed to report any suspected case to the jurisdictional District Health Officer (DHO) without any delay. "They should collect the clinical sample from a suspected case, if any, and arrange for the immediate shipment to NIV, Pune through NIV, Bengaluru as per the guidelines," he said.

Rapid Response Teams

The district Rapid Response Teams (RRT) including veterinary officers will be alerted in case there is a suspected case. "At least two beds will be reserved in the district hospitals for quarantining the suspected cases reported, if any, and negative pressure ICUs will be identified. All hospitals have been directed to ensure adequate stocks of all essential drugs and oxygen," the Commissioner said.

Constable caught accepting bribe

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta officials caught a 39-year-old police constable allegedly red-handed while accepting a bribe of ₹30,000 for an official favour in Malur on Thursday.

The accused Girish R.N., a resident of Mahadevapura and working in Masthi police station in Kolar district, had demanded a bribe to release a four-wheeler that he had seized related to a case.

The accused was caught accepting the bribe near taluk panchayath office in Malur, said Lokayukta officials.

He has been booked under Prevention of Corruption act and taken into custody for further investigations.

₹94 lakh lost by firm employee recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chandra Layout police on Thursday recovered hard cash of ₹94 lakh which was left behind by a private firm employee while going to the office of an advocate in a hurry on Monday.

The complainant, Pramod, working in a city based BPO, was in a hurry to go to the advocate office along with the cash and some documents for verification to purchase a site. While keeping the boxes in the car, he left the carton box filled with cash on a scooter next to his car in a hurry.

After reaching the advocate's office, he realised that he had left behind the cash and rushed back, but by then, the cash had vanished.

Based on the complaint, the police started gathering CCTV camera footage and identified the person who drove away with the cash box on a scooter. The scooter, according to S. Girish, DCP, west division, belonged to Varun Gowda, who worked in a credit card verification company.

After verifying over 300 CCTV camera footages, the police tracked down Varun from his house in Girinagar and recovered the cash intact on Thursday. The accused was planning to buy a second hand SUV and properties and valuables with the money.

The accused has been booked under theft case.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owner **SRI.KONDA REDDY** S/o late Venkataramanappa, residing at Handenahalli, Sarjapura Hobli, Anakel Taluk, Bangalore.

If any person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule property by the aforesaid owner, they are hereby called upon to file their objections in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.16, PID No.66-60-16, measuring East to West 35 ft and North to South 53 ft, in all measuring 1855 Sq.ft, together with a building thereon, situated at 2nd Cross, Maruthinagar, Madiwala Extension, Bengaluru and bounded on:

East by : Property/site bearing No.38
West by : Property/site bearing No.40
North by : Property of Convent
South by : Road.

Sd/- S.F. Goutam Chand
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004.

FORM 4

(Under Section 82, 83 Cr.P.C.)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON ACCUSED

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, (Economic Offence-II), EGMORE, CHENNAI-8.

E.O.C.C. NO. 192/2016

WHEREAS the complaint has been made before me that **A1. C.S. PANI** has committed the offences u/s 628 of the Companies Act, 1956 and it has been returned to a Warrant of Arrest thereupon issued that the said **A1. C.S. PANI** cannot be found, and there it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **A1. C.S. PANI** has absconded or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **A1. C.S. PANI** is required to appear at 10.00 a.m., before the **Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Economic Offences – II** at Egmore, Chennai – 600 008 to answer the said complaint on **16.10.2023**.

Given under my hand the seal of the Court, this the 07th day of September 2023.

Name and address of the Accused

A1. C.S. Pani,
Ex. Executive Director of M/s. Sea Horse Hospitals Limited,
"Sri Saikrupa", 543, 12th Cross, 36th Main Road,
Sri Rajeswari Nagar,
Bangalore - 560 039.

Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (E.O.II), Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our Client **Mr. KHADIR M A S/o Mr. M A Aziz,** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mrs.Shanthi Royan, Mrs.Mary Ires, Mr.Maria Don Bosco, Mr.A Immanuel Arokia Raj, Ms.Rani Maria Manogari, Mr.Manohar Anthony Raja Kumar, Mr.H.Vincent Joseph and Mr.Philip Rajan Harry** all legal heirs of late Mr. Joseph Harry, any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client/s shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing **No.80,** PID No.87-204-80, Old Property No.15/1, Situated at **Lingarajapuram Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore,** Measuring East to West 9.144 Meters (30 Feet), North to South 13.716Meters (45 Feet), **totally Measuring 125.419 Sq. Meters (1350 Square Feet),** along with a residential house constructed thereon, Presently coming under the limits of (BBMP) and bounded on the:

East by : House bearing No.81, West by : House bearing No.79, North by : Road, South by : House bearing No.73.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 9108784843

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is intending to purchase the schedule property from **Sri. SURESH,** S/o. late. Sri. Venkatanarayanappa, Aged about 49 years, Residing at Mylasandra Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru district. Anybody has got any sort of right, claim, interest over the schedule property or having any sort of objection for the said transaction shall approach the under mentioned Advocate within **7 days** from this day with documentary evidence, failing which my client shall proceed further in accordance with the terms of the agreement considering there is no objection to the said sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece & parcel of the vacant immovable residential site bearing **No. 135,** formed out converted Sy. No 3/9, converted from agricultural to Non- agricultural residential purposes, vide Order No.ALN.(S).SR(K.T) 177/03-04 dated 31/03/2004 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bengaluru, situated at **Mylasandra Village, Kengeri Taluk, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru district** and measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 55 feet and in all measuring **1650 sq.feet,** presently within the limits of BBMP B Khata No. 3/9/135,.

And BOUNDED ON:

EAST BY : Site No. 136, WEST BY : Site No. 134, NORTH BY : Road, SOUTH BY : Private property belonging to Sri. B.N. Prakash.

N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate
48/1, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Opp: Canara Bank, Vallabha Nagar, Uttarahalli
Main Road, Uttarahalli, Bangalore-560061.
Ph No. 9343094442, 080-41628629

Government of Karnataka
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department,
Mandya Division, Mandya, Phone: 08232-222363,
email:eerwsmdy@gmail.com
No:EE/RDW&SD/MDY/JALADHAREPSR(PART-2):2023-24/927
Dated:12-09-2023

Short Term Re-Tender Notification NO-24/2022-23
(Two Cover System) 2nd Call
(e-procurement portal)

On behalf of Governor of karnataka, The E.E, R.D.W & S Division, Mandya invited tender for the work of MVS TO IDENTIFIED RURAL HABITATIONS IN SRIRANGAPATNA TALUKS IN MANDYA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA THROUGH D.B.O.T MODE UNDER JJM from eligible bidders. Pre-Bid **Meeting Date:20.09.2023 Time:11:00 AM (Place:Office of the Chief Engineer, Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Bangalore)**, Last Date & Time for Receipt of **Bids:-29.09.2023. Time:05:00 PM**, Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening: **30.09.2023 Time :05:05 PM,** Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening: **03.10.2023 Time:11:00 AM,** More details can be obtained through e-procurement portal of Govt of karnataka **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or from this office during working hours.Phone No: 08232-222363.

Sd/-Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Mandya
DIPR/Ad-MDY/KSMCA/183/2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public are hereby informed by my clients **Mr. Deepak Chandrasekar,** Son of Mr. Chandrasekar and **Mrs. Ranjitha Radhakrishnan,** W/o. Mr. Deepak Chandrasekar, Residing at : No. 9, Krishna Nivas,18th Main, H.A.L. 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560 008, are hereby intending to purchase all that piece and parcel of the immovable property with PID No.74-1-2178, **House No.2178, measuring East to West: 12.20 meters (40.02 feet) and North to South: 9 meters (29.52 feet), in all admeasuring 109.80 square meters (1182 square feet),** from its present owner **Ms. Preeti Vyas,** D/o. Late Shri. Krishnakant Vyas, Aged about 67 years, Presently residing at: Flat No.5602, "A" Wing, 56th Floor, Raheja Imperia 1, No.45, Shankar Rao Naram Path, Lower Parel West, Mumbai 400 013. Any person/s claiming to have any interest and rights may rise objections if any to the proposed purchase by the undersigned within **7 days** of publication hereof along with supporting documentary evidence, failing which my client will proceed with the transaction and any claim received thereafter will not be entertained.

Niveditha Satish, Advocate,
No.1012/3, 1st "A" Cross,
BEML Main road, New Thippasandra,
Bengaluru-560075.
Ph: 8762557072

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan,
Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383, website : www.kiadb.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Class-II & above (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-12/230/2023-24 **Date: 14.09.2023**

Name of the works: (1) Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Nanjangudu IA Mysuru District & Badanakuppe- Kellambelli Industrial area, Chamarajanagara District. (Others), **(2)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Adakanahalli, Nanjanagudu Taluk & Thandya 2nd Phase, womens Park 1st phase & Immavu Industrial Area, Mysuru District. (Reserved for SC), **(3)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Gejjalagere, Somanahalli and Tubinakere Industrial areas, Mandya District (Others) **(4)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at IT SEZ, NON IT SEZ & Canara Industrial Area at Dakshina Kannada District (Others), **(5)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Baikampady Industrial Area, Dakshina Kannada District (Others), **(6)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Karnad Industrial area at Dakshina Kannada Dist & Belapu Industrial area at Udupi District. (Reserved for ST), **(7)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Karur, Lokikere, Haralapura & Hangawadi Industrial Areas, Davangere District. (Reserved for SC) **(8)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Devakathikoppa, Sanda, Nidige & Mandlikallur Industrial Area, Shivamogga District (Others).

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-13/229/2023-24 **Date: 14.09.2023**

Name of the works: (1) Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Dabaspet 1st & 2nd, Sompura & Avverahalli IA, Bengaluru District (Others), **(2)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Vasantha Narsapura 1st, 2nd & 3rd Phase IA,Housing layout & JIP, Tumakuru Dist (Reserved for SC), **(3)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Gamanagatti 1st & 2nd phase and Tarihal 1st & 2nd phase Indl area, Dharwad Dist (Others), **(4)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at Kangralli & Kanabargi Indl area, Belagavi Dist (Reserved for ST), **(5)** Re-conditioning, operation & maintenance of street lights at High Tech Defence & Aerospace Indl area, Bengaluru Rural Dist. (Except road no-1) (Others).

Last date for submission of bids is: **03.10.2023 upto 04:00 pm**

Applicants may download bidding documents from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal, **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/1292/2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase All that piece and parcel of the Residential House Property bearing No. **7, BBMP Khatha No.7/22/1A,** measuring East to West: 40ft and North to South: 30ft., with 12 square building, situated at Puttenahalli Village, J.P. Nagar 7th Phase, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, was allotted to the share of Mr. S. Raju Son of Mr. C. Srinivasulu Naidu by virtue of the Partition Deed dated 07-07-2004, registered as document No. KEN-1-13938-2004-05 of Book 1, CD No. KEND112, registered before the office of the Sub Registrar, Kengeri

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF the residential house Property bearing **No.7,** presently bearing **Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Katha Number 7/22/1A**, having constructed thereon Ground floor measuring 69.30Sq.Mtrs, First Floor measuring 69.30Sq.Mtrs, Second floor measuring 69.30Sq.Mtrs, Third Floor measuring 69.30Sq.Mtrs, Terrace Floor 19.30 Sq.Mtrs, all measuring 286.50 Sq Meters, situated at Puttenahalli village, J.P. Nagar 7 phase, **Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East-West: 40 Ft and North-South:30 ft., with 12 squares** building with all amenities and bounded on the:-

EAST BY : Road; WEST BY : Property bearing No.11; NORTH BY : Property bearing No.8, & SOUTH BY : Property bearing No.6.

Any person's having objection/s to the above mentioned transaction or any person's claiming to have any manner of right title, interest, claim or demand in relation to the Owner and/or the Schedule Property or any part thereof, may lodge his/ her/their statement's, objections and/or claim's in writing, along with documentary evidence in support thereof, with the undersigned within 7 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. In the absence of any genuine and/or rightful objections and/or claim, our client will proceed to finalize and conclude the proposed transaction of purchase of the Schedule Property by way of an outright sale from the Owner, as if no claim's or objection's exist and that they have been consciously waived and abandoned by such person's forever.

Sd/- **B. Vivek Anand Sagar**
Ashvik Law Associates,
Advocates and Solicitors,
Office at No 24, Sri Rama Mandir Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my clients **Mr. Dalpat son of Mr. Gumnaram and Mr. Chandra Ram son of Mr. Gumnaram,** both are residing at No.19, 1st Cross, Poojappa Road, Chairman Street Ramaswamypalya, Kammanahalli Main Road, M.S. Nagar Post, Bangalore -560033 are the absolute owners and are in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. They have lost/misplaced the Original Rectification Deed dated 30-11-1992, which is duly registered as Document No.4415/1992-93, of Book–I, Volume 4832, at Pages 92 to 93, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk and Bangalore pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged **on 14-09-2023 vide Lost Report No.0727936/2023.** I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately / within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my clients and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property consisting of land together with residential Ground Floor and First Floor premises bearing Municipal New **No.19** (PID No.87-163-19) 1st Cross, Pujjappa Road, Ramaswamy Palya (R.S. Palya), in BBMP Ward No.87, Bangalore, (formerly Site No.29, now bearing Khaneshumari No.2339/1, (Sl. No.3673) situated at **Ramaswamypalya also known as Byataguttepalya, Hamlet of Kacharakanahalli, earlier Gramathana limits of Kacharakanahalli Panchayath Bangalore North Taluk),** Measuring East to West: 20 Feet, North to South 40 Feet, in all measuring **800 Sq. Ft.,** and bounded on the :

East by : Muniappa's Land, West by : Poojappa's Property, North by : Road; South by : Chikkanna's Property.

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore-500 020.
Contact : 9740718436

FORM 4

(Under Section 82, 83 Cr.P.C.)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON ACCUSED

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, (Economic Offence-II), EGMORE, CHENNAI-8.

E.O.C.C. NO. 192/2016

WHEREAS the complaint has been made before me that **A4. N.D. PRABHU** has committed the offences u/s 628 of the Companies Act, 1956 and it has been returned to a Warrant of Arrest thereupon issued that the said **A4. N.D. PRABHU** cannot be found, and there it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **A4. N.D. PRABHU** has absconded or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **A4. N.D. PRABHU is** required to appear at 10.00 a.m., before the **Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Economic Offences – II** at Egmore, Chennai – 600 008 to answer the said complaint on **16.10.2023**.

Given under my hand the seal of the Court, this the 07th day of September 2023.

Name and address of the Accused

A4. N.D. Prabhu,
Director of M/s. Sea Horse Hospitals Limited,
S/o N. Narashima Prabhu,
641, 11th Cross, 7th Block, Jayanagar (West),
Bangalore - 82.

Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (E.O.II), Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20

TENDER NOTICE No. CAO/CN/BNC/70/2023
Dated : 11-09-2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi - Ballari Section :** Balance works for proposed construction of ROB of span 1x42m Bowstring Girder for Railway portion and 12x18.30m PSC Girders for approaches with U-trough retaining wall in lieu of LC No. 32 at Km. 56/300-400. **(Tender Ref. No: UBL-BAY-LC-32)**	Rs. 10,79,19,331/-
2	**1.** Construction of ROB in Lieu of LC No. 41, 1x30.00m Railway span with Bow String Girder including approaches with (2x18.46m+2x18.46m) PSC Girder spans + U-troughs Retaining wall at Km. 80/600-700 on Sankeshwar - Kudalasangama (SH-44) Road. **2.** Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 34, 1x60.00m Railway span with Bow string girder including approaches with (3x18.46m+3x18.46m) PSC Girder Spans + U-troughs Retaining wall at Km. 67/600-700 on Bagalkot - Badami (SH-57) Road. **(Tender Ref. No: UBL-ROB-LC-41-34)**	Rs. 76,12,20,757/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 02-10-2023 for Sl. No. 1 & 03-10-2023 for Sl. No. 2

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer / Construction / Works
Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/370/AAS/PRB/SWR/2023-24
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

Neural implants remedy hearing loss by integrating with the nervous system

Cochlear implants help deafened individuals living in a world of silence enter the world of sound. The technology has integrated people with hearing loss into normal society and improves vastly their quality of life

Dr. Mohan Kameswaran

Representational image of the bionic ear in a petri dish. FIle AP

The burden of hearing loss in India is significant as it is one of the most common congenital anomalies to affect children. The World Health Organisation reports that severe to profound hearing loss affects nearly 2 - 3 per 1000 live births, making it the most common congenital abnormality to affect newborns the world over. This scenario is even more pronounced in developing countries such as the Indian sub-continent, especially with the continuing problem of consanguinous marriages. Hearing loss at birth is considered a social stigma even in present-day society and results in a double tragedy, as it leads to not only deafness but also speech and language deprivation and communication problems.

In the past, individuals with severe to profound hearing loss who did not benefit from hearing aids were condemned to live in a world of silence. However, hearing loss today, is the only truly remediable handicap, due to remarkable advances in biomedical engineering and surgical techniques. Rather than mend a diseased organ, the emphasis has shifted to bypassing it with a bionic prosthetic device.

Cochlear implants (CI) can help deafened individuals living in a world of silence enter the world of sound. The advent of this technology has successfully broken the acoustic barrier, thus integrating people with hearing loss into normal society and providing them with a highly productive quality of life.

CIs help augment or restore hearing by integrating an external circuitry with the peripheral hearing apparatus and the central circuitry of the brain. They are bio-compatible and safe as well as extremely effective in restoring hearing in both children and adults with severe - profound hearing loss, who do not benefit from conventional hearing aids. These implantable devices electronically stimulate the cochlear nerve (nerve of hearing), bypassing the damaged hair cells of the cochlea (inner ear). Thus, hearing restoration is the first successful attempt in medical science to integrate an electronic device with the central nervous system, in order to fully restore a lost special sense organ.

CIs are electronic devices with external and internal components and are designed to detect mechanical sound energy and convert it into electrical signals that can be delivered to the cochlear nerve. These electrical signals are processed by an external speech processor and sent via a radiofrequency interface into an array of electrodes implanted surgically within the cochlea (inner ear).

The individual's ability to adjust to, interpret and respond to the electrical stimulus can determine outcomes. Length of time spent without sound stimulation, presence or absence of previous experience with sound, personal motivation, community or family support, and opportunities for habilitation have been shown to be important factors in achieving a good outcome. Early identification and management of hearing loss is extremely important for good outcomes with a CI. All children below the age of six years who have profound hearing loss and who will not benefit from conventional hearing aids and all adults who have lost hearing after the acquisition of language are ideal candidates. Presently, the indications for CI have expanded to include children aged one year or less, elderly individuals, children with abnormal cochlea, additional handicaps, etc.

> The implants electronically stimulate the cochlear nerve. Hearing restoration is the first successful attempt to integrate an electronic device with the nervous system to fully restore a lost sense organ

The recent trend is towards cochlear implantation in both ears which provides improved localisation of sound and enhanced ability to hear in the presence of background noise. For long it was believed that natural hearing was not compatible and could not co-exist with bionic hearing through a cochlear implant. This myth has fortunately been laid to rest in recent years with the advent of electro-acoustic stimulation (EAS) or hybrid implants. This application of implantable hearing technology combines a hearing aid and a cochlear implant (EAS) into a hybrid device designed for individuals with low-frequency hearing and severe-to-profound high-frequency hearing loss.

Cochlear implant electrode array in situ

The switch-on of the device is done three weeks after surgery once the wound has healed. Mapping is done at periodic intervals and prolonged and intensive habilitation after cochlear implantation is essential. Habilitation aims at improving receptive language skills and expressive skills.

In Tamil Nadu, the cochlear implant program has been very successful as free cochlear implants are being sponsored for children under six years and below the poverty line. Nearly 5000 CIs have therefore been performed in Tamil Nadu under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.

CI surgery and technology continue to evolve. Rapid technological advancements in bioengineering and implant manufacturing methods have led to miniaturization of the device, with refinement in sound signals, providing better "hearing in noise" and music appreciation among cochlear implantees.

Robotic techniques for surgery may be available in the near future. Fully implanted devices, improved speech coding strategies, nanotechnology, stem cell therapy, cochlear hair cell regeneration, and nerve growth factors used in conjunction with an implant may be available in the future.

Rapid advances in genetics are revolutionizing our understanding of congenital deafness and should play an important part in prevention, in the selection of patients and in determining CI outcomes.

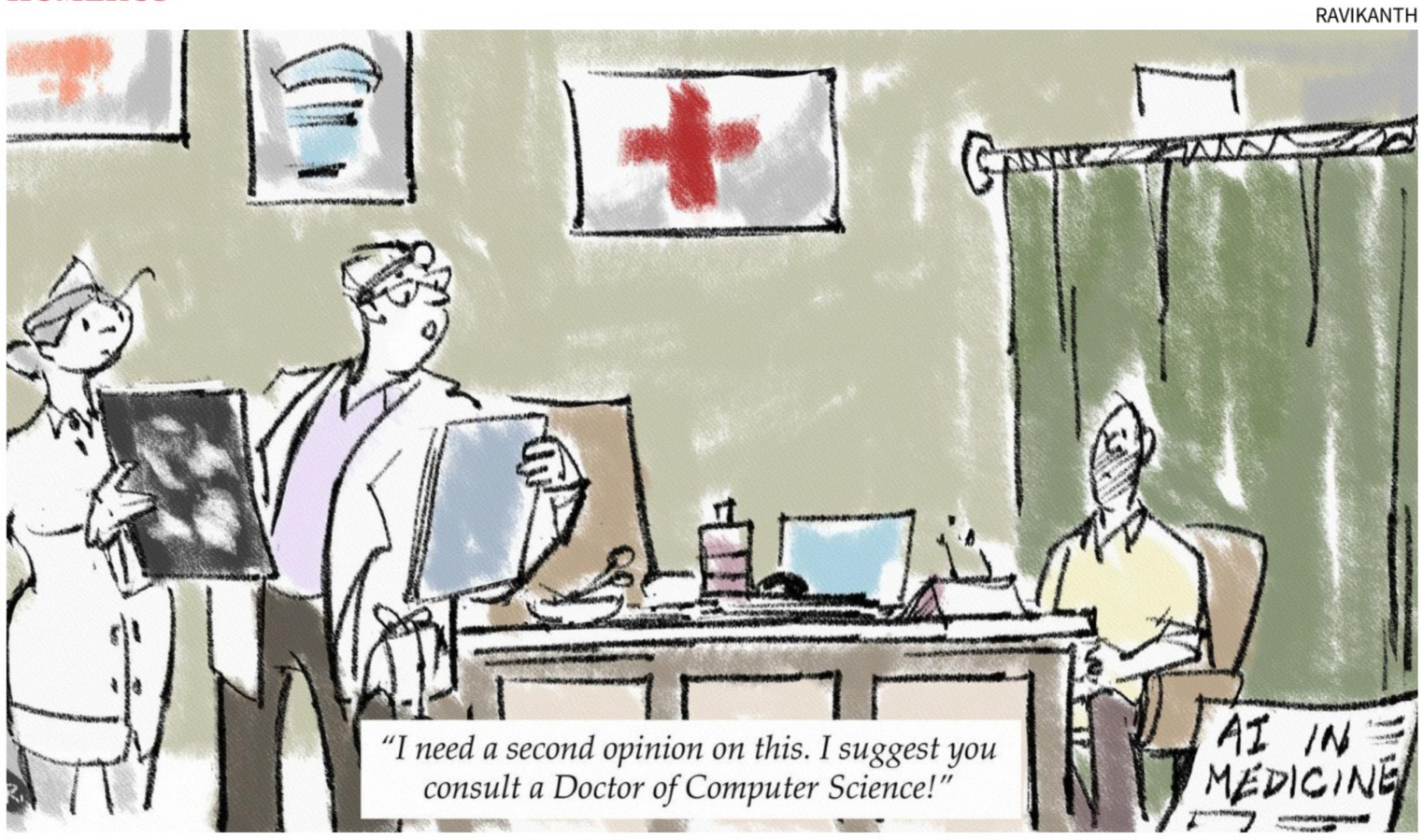
Gene therapy for hearing impairment may become available. A novel imaging technique -- synchrotron radiation phase-contrast imaging to look into the interior of the cochlea in unprecedented detail will result in an improved understanding of the microanatomy of the ear and improve management of hearing loss. Artificial intelligence is also playing an important role in improving patient outcomes.

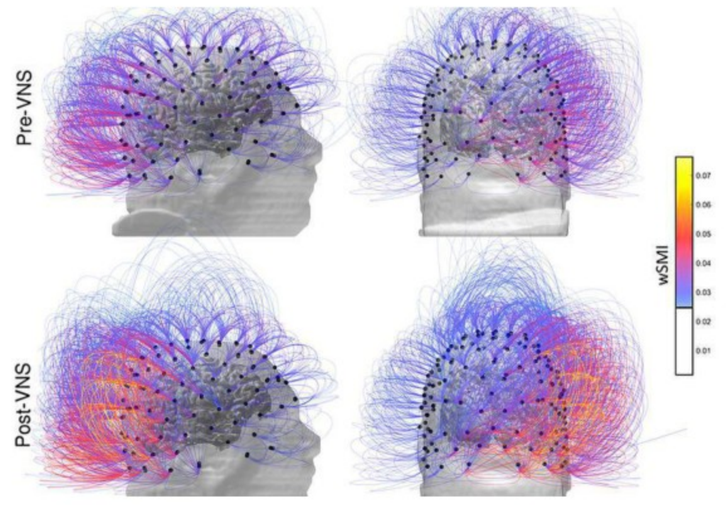
The cochlear implant is one of the most significant innovations of the last century making hearing the only sense that can be replicated through a medical device. Developments in technology will expand the benefit of cochlear implants. A full spectrum of hearing solutions is now available in the Indian subcontinent. Despite several challenges, cochlear implantation in India is a success story.

(Mohan Kameswaran is Senior Consultant ENT Surgeon & Managing Director, Madras ENT Research Foundation, Chennai. merfworkshop30@gmail.com)

HUMERUS

RAVIKANTH





Brain activity in a patient before, top row, and after vagus nerve stimulation. Image for representational purpose only. AP

Does vagus nerve dysfunction have a connection with COVID-19?

FAQ

Zubeda Hamid

The story so far: There's been a lot of chatter online of late, about the vagus nerve: ways to stimulate it and possible benefits of this stimulation to help with health problems from anxiety to obesity. Videos abound on stimulation, including yoga, plunging your face into cold water, alongside sales of little devices that send electrical impulses into your brain. Research has also indicated a link between vagus nerve dysfunction and long COVID.

What is the vagus nerve?

They're actually a pair of nerves, one on each side, that run from your brainstem, through the neck, to your chest and stomach. They form a key part of the parasympathetic nervous system, the system that is responsible for relaxing and resting your body after a bout of activity and for a number of vital functions including your heart rate, blood pressure and digestion; it also plays a role in the immune system.

Why is the vagus nerve being researched?

There are many things that make the vagus nerve fascinating to researchers. The vagal nerves are the longest cranial nerves, going from your brain to your large intestine, fulfilling their meaning ('vagus' in Latin means 'wandering') by passing through, or connecting with your neck, heart, lungs, abdomen and digestive tract - all important parts. They are the 10th of your 12 cranial nerves and contain 75% of your parasympathetic nervous system's nerve fibre. They work bi-directionally, allowing the brain and body to communicate with each other. So researchers are increasingly looking at ways through which stimulation of these nerves, our 'sensory superhighways', thereby triggering the parasympathetic nervous system, may potentially help with various health conditions.

What are the conditions vagus nerve stimulation can treat?

Some treatments are already in existence, for instance, an implantable vagus nerve stimulator is used to treat epilepsy and depression (that does not respond to conventional treatment), by stimulating areas of the brain that lead to seizures and affect moods. There are now non-invasive devices that can be held against the skin for stimulation. One finding about the vagus nerve was that it regulates inflammation: the body, in response to an infection, gets temporarily inflamed, but once the infection is dealt with, the vagus nerve helps bring the body back to normal by suppressing inflammation. This, researchers believe, could have implications in helping to treat several conditions.

Vagus nerve stimulation is also being studied for other diseases and disorders such as migraines, polycystic ovary syndrome, alcoholism, rheumatoid arthritis, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis and gut disorders such as inflammatory bowel disease and Crohn's disease.

What is the vagus nerve's connection to long COVID?

A study posted on the *Preprints with Lancet* server in June this year, took a look at patients with Post-Covid-19 Condition (PCC) or long COVID. It attempted to find out whether dysfunction of the vagus nerve could be responsible for symptoms these patients experienced, including persistent dysphonia (hoarseness), dysphagia (swallowing difficulties), dizziness, shortness of breath, fast heart rates and gastrointesitnal disturbances.

The study found that those with PCC were more likely to have vagus nerve-related symptoms, compared to those who had recovered from COVID-19 and those not infected, indicating that vagus nerve dysfunction could have a role in the pathophysiology of PCC.

The study, also presented at last year's European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases suggested that many symptoms connected to PCC could be linked to the effect of the coronavirus on the vagus nerve.

Other papers have also looked at impaired vagal activity in long COVID patients, as well as potential therapeutic approaches that include vagal nerve stimulation

Does vagus nerve stimulation benefit all patients?

Implanted vagus nerve stimulation does not work for everybody, and is not intended to replace conventional treatment, states the Mayo Clinic's website. It is an adjuvant treatment for most conditions, not a primary treatment, says E.S. Krishnamoorthy, neuropsychiatrist and founder, Buddhi Clinic, Chennai. VNS is still being studied and, more research is needed into its potential therapeutic effect.

Dr. Krishnamoorthy also cautions that stimulation of the vagus nerve with a devic must not be done at home. Since the nerve regulates heartbeat and blood pressure, cardiac clearance is needed, Dr. Krishanmoorthy, who uses this method as part of broader treatment regimens, explains. "There are inhibitory and stimulatory protocols to be followed while using these devices, and so it has to be done under a doctor's supervision."

(zubeda.h@thehindu.co.in)

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for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

GRAPHICALLY SPEAKING

The travails of gig workers

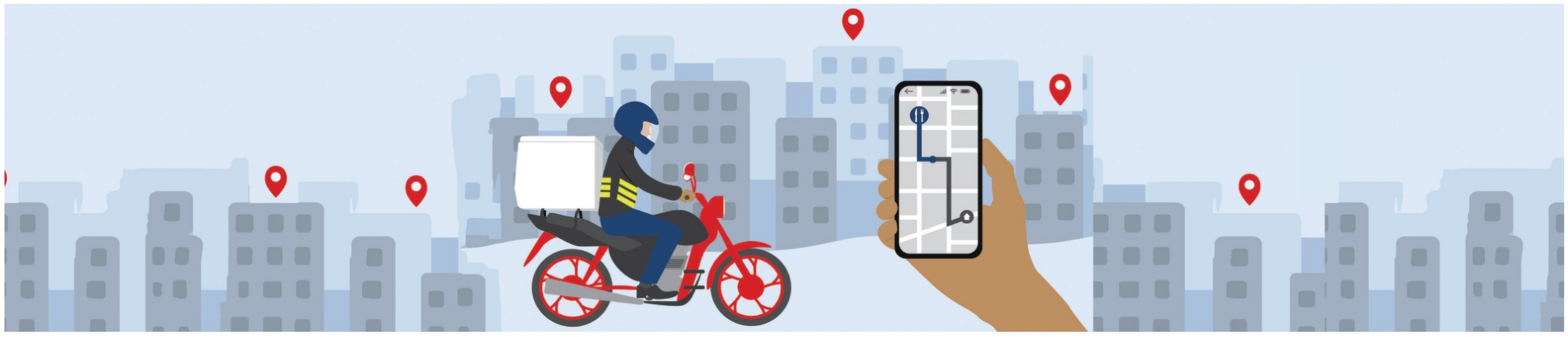
A survey report on food delivery partners by the National Council of Applied Economic Research validates several common beliefs, such as workers being young graduates who work extended hours for better pay and independence. However, the study also reveals new insights: a sizeable portion of them are sole breadwinners and a notable share experienced a drop in incomes compared to their previous jobs. The findings indicate a decline in their real incomes over time even as the share of income that they spent on fuel had risen, resulting in a double whammy. By **The Hindu Data Team**

■ While a majority said they switched jobs to earn a higher income, their real monthly income fell from ₹13,500 a month in 2019 to ₹12,000 in 2022, due to inflation

■ A significant share of them spent a sizeable amount buying new phones and vehicles for the job

■ A majority of them agreed that deliveries can be increased if they worked harder, while a similar share also said that this was not in their control due to traffic and restaurant delays

■ Fuel costs as a share of their income increased from 28.7% in 2019 to 37.5% in 2022



Profile of a food delivery partner

An overview of the average food delivery worker, encompassing their background and skill sets, according to the survey

■ The typical food delivery worker is a **29-year-old male**

■ Nearly one-fourth **(23.8%) of these workers** are in their first job, and of this group, **88% are students**

■ Food delivery workers **lack social security protection**. Only 61.9% of workers receive rations, 12.2% possess an Ayushman Bharat card, 7.1% are registered on the e-Shram portal, and 4% are enrolled in the Atal Pension Yojana

■ These workers are considered informal labour, **lacking employer-provided social welfare and job security**, although some have accident insurance

■ Workers on long shifts **average 10.8 hours**, while those on short shifts work about **5.2 hours**

■ A third of the workers have college degrees, and **93% have at least completed 10th standard**

■ **43.7%** of workers are sole wage earners , and **68.9%** are non-migrants who worked in their hometowns

■ On average, workers stay in their food delivery roles for about **14.1 months**, though a third indicate that they have no plans to leave

■ In terms of tenure, **28.1%** have been working for less than a year and 25.7% for 1-2 years, making them pandemic-era hires. **24.7% started before the pandemic**, having worked for over two years

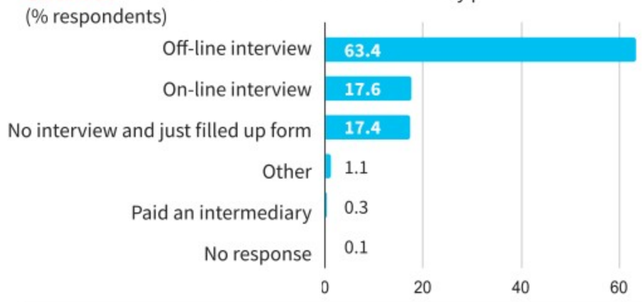
■ These workers work **27.8% more hours than the average urban young male** and earn 59.6% more. But, after accounting for fuel expenses, this income advantage narrows to 5%

Incentives

Chart 1: A look at the reasons given by workers for joining food delivery platforms (% respondents)

Basis of entry

Chart 2: How did workers enter the food delivery platform? (% respondents)



Job requirements

To work for a food delivery service, a worker is required to own a two-wheeler and know how to use it, have a smartphone, and buy a kit that includes a T-shirt and bags

Vehicle

■ 87.8% of food delivery workers rely on two-wheelers, and 9.6% use bicycles for deliveries

■ 78% of these workers have their own vehicles for food delivery

■ Among those who didn't own a vehicle prior to joining, 55.2% purchased a new one, 18.2% bought a used one, and 14.6% borrowed from friends or relatives

■ Of those workers who acquired a new vehicle, 9.4% used the food delivery platform as a loan guarantor

Smart phone

■ Before joining the platform, 55.2% of workers already owned a smartphone, whereas 25.3% had to purchase one

■ Primarily students needed to purchase phones, with a third of them buying new ones.

Additionally, 21.5% of these students spent more than ₹10,000 on their phones

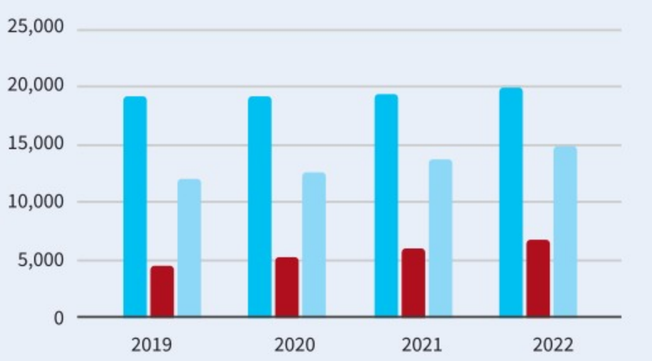
■ 17.4% of workers indicated that their phone cost exceeded ₹10,000. Given that the average monthly household expense in the survey is ₹13,089, a worker would need to allocate 75% of their monthly spending to afford a smartphone if purchased at once

Delivery kit

■ The average cost for a delivery kit that a worker needed to purchase was ₹682.6.

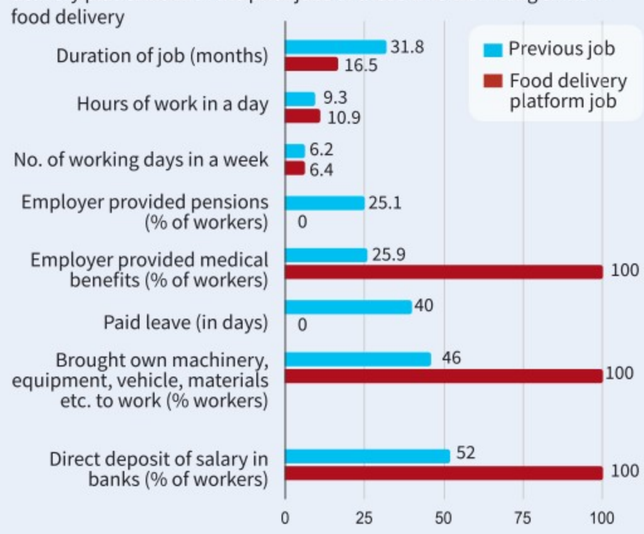
■ Often, workers borrowed kits from friends or relatives to sidestep purchasing T-shirts and bags from the platforms. Alternatively, some paid a refundable security deposit ranging from ₹700 to ₹1,500 to acquire the kit

Chart 7: Average monthly earnings, fuel costs, and monthly spending (excluding fuel) for long-shift platform workers



Old vs new job

Chart 3: The chart contrasts different facets of employment in food delivery platforms with the prior jobs of those who work long shifts in food delivery



Income and expenditure

Examining the change in a food delivery worker's income level after joining the platform

Chart 4: % of long-shift workers who said their real income (new income minus previous job's monthly income) increased/decreased/remained same

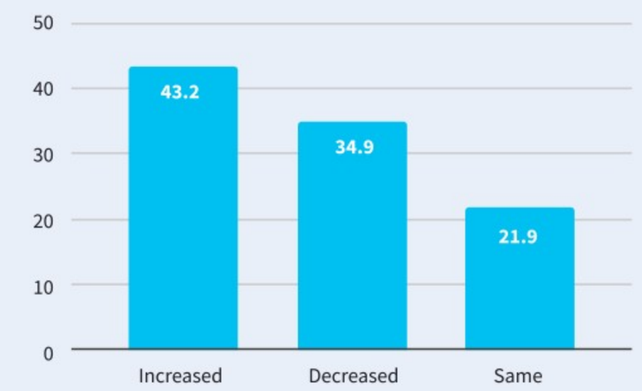


Chart 5: Year-wise nominal and real monthly income of long-shift food delivery workers (in ₹ thousand)

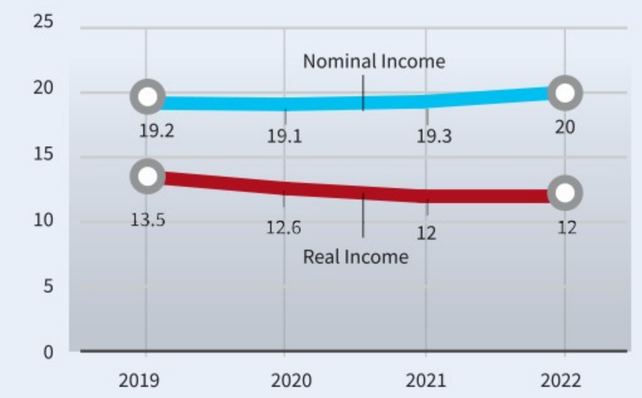
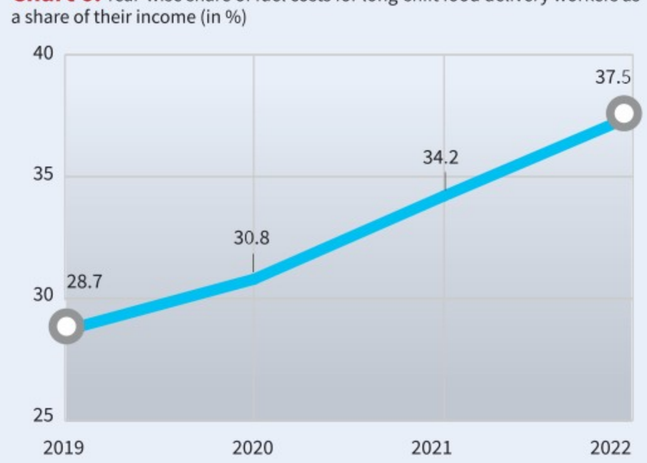


Chart 6: Year-wise share of fuel costs for long-shift food delivery workers as a share of their income (in %)



Perceptions about delivery

The charts show the share of respondents who said the following:

Chart 8: The number of deliveries can be increased if a worker tries harder

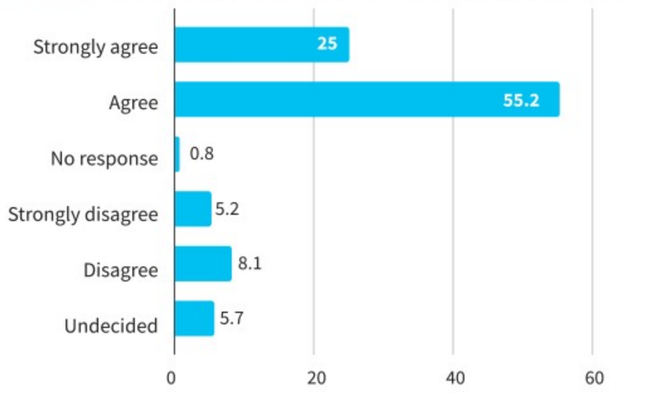


Chart 9: The number of deliveries a worker makes is not in their control

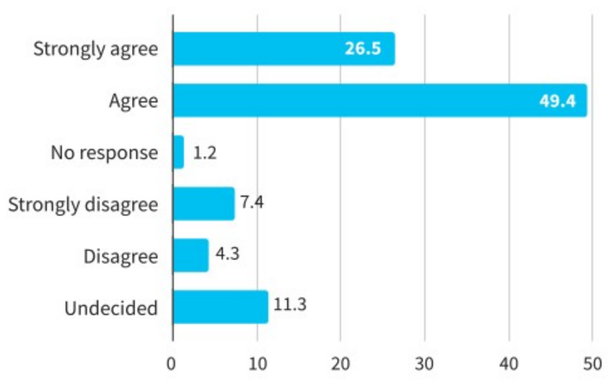


Chart 10: The worker can improve their rating if they are polite to their customers

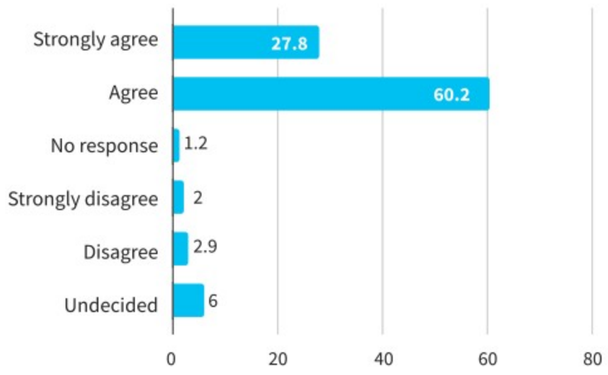
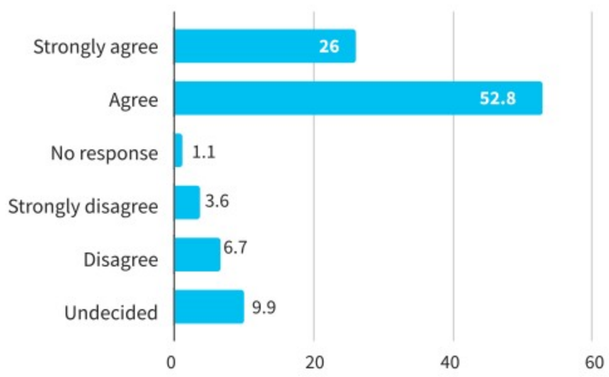


Chart 11: The worker has to spend a lot of time waiting at a restaurant for an order



Methodology

NCAER conducted a phone survey involving 924 food delivery workers from a specific platform. The survey spanned 28 cities, covering Tier 1, 2, and 3 cities across all regions of India—North, South, East, and West. It included both active and inactive or former workers, who had employment durations ranging from less than a year to over two years, working either full-time or part-time. This report, the first output of a three-part research programme undertaken by NCAER extensively explores the socio-economic implications of workers engaged in the food delivery platform industry, shedding light on their employment patterns, incomes, and work environments. Parts two and three of the research programme reports, to be released subsequently, will evaluate the socio-economic impact of food delivery platforms on restaurants, and their systemic impact on India's economy and labour markets.

Govt. preparing framework for fact-check body: Priyank

Minister says it will be an independent body and there will be no curbs on freedom of expression

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

RDPR and IT Minister, Priyank Kharge

The Department of Information and Technology (IT) and the Home Department are preparing a framework for Karnataka government's proposed fact-checking body, which will fight misinformation and fake news on social media and other platforms.

"The first draft of the proposal was submitted to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah who gave a few suggestions to strengthen the body," said Minister for IT & BT and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Priyank Kharge. Now, the team is working on tightening the guidelines. After inception, the body may operate under the Home Department.

Sharing with media
The government will also be sharing the framework with the media and seek suggestions as concerns were raised about the proposed body, the Minister said.

Recently, Editors Guild of India (EGI) had expressed concerns over the proposed fact-check unit of the Karnataka government. The EGI issued a statement: "We urge all governments to ensure such units are independent of executive control, and their scope and powers are specified so as to not trample upon press freedom."

The EGI had also filed a petition in Bombay High Court challenging amendment to the IT rules, 2023, that allow setting up of a fact-checking unit under which executives will have sole authority to determine what is fake or not, and with powers to order to take down content. The EGI wants such bodies to be independent, and not under the clutch of governments.

Mr. Kharge tried to ally the fears in a post on X saying it would be an independent body, and would not curb freedom of expression. Mr. Kharge said "he will be sharing the framework with the media and will also seek suggestions to ally all the concerns raised by the EGI."

Not adhoc body
The Minister told *The Hindu* that a comprehensive and tightly-knit framework is being prepared by IT and Home Departments, which will be again submitted to the Chief Minister and Home Minister. "It will not be an ad hoc body," he said. The fact-check unit will take all technological support, including Artificial Intelligence.

On concerns of EGI, he said the unit is set up with the sole purpose of fighting misinformation, and it will not be misused.

"For instance, if anyone defames a minister on social media or other platforms, then that minister is free to file a defamation case, and it is a separate matter. This cannot be linked to the fact check unit. On the other hand, genuine criticism of the policies by individuals or press will not be silenced in the name of fact-check. The body will work under the framework of the Constitution and law of the land," he said.

Probe into multi-crore cheating case involving Hindutva activist

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hindutva activist Chaitra Kundapura being brought to CCB office for introgation on Thursday in Benglauru

Hours after the arrest of Hindutva activist Chaitra Kundapura and five of her associates, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) officials on Wednesday produced them before the court and have taken them into 10 days custody for further investigations.

The accused Chaitra Kundapura and seven others are accused of cheating hospitality entrepreneur Govinda Babu Poojari of ₹5 crore promising a BJP ticket from Byndoor Assembly constituency. The other accused have been identified as Gagan Kadur, BJP Yuva Morcha General secretary in Chikkamagaluru, Ramesh, Dhanraj, Prajwal, and Srikanth.

The CCB team headed by a senior officer of the rank of ACP is questioning the accused to ascertain their exact role in the racket .

Following a cheating complaint on Friday, a team of officials on Tuesday night arrested Chaitra from the parking area of Krishna Mutt in Udupi. Based on her information, the police arrested the other accused from in and around Chikkamagaluru.

The complainant had alleged that Kundapura, who claimed to be close to BJP and RSS leaders and also having links with the PMO office, and Gagan Kadur, assured him of a BJP ticket from Byndoor and took ₹5 crore from him and failed to get him a ticket. According to the FIR, he had given the money in installments, including ₹1.5 crore to Abhinava Halashree of Ballari, who claimed to be a seer. The accused had disguised some people as RSS and BJP leaders and introduced them to Poojari to get the money.

After getting the money, the complainant said that the accused informed him that an "RSS leader" named Vishwanathji, had passed away and his ₹3.5 crore was with him.

The accused had even trained Ramesh to pose as an RSS leader and paid him ₹1.2 lakh for the acting. The other "BJP leader," enacted by Dhanraj, sells kebab on the roadside in K.R. Puram.

The police said the accused Chaitra threatened to end her life and threatened the complainant with dire consequences when the latter demanded the money, following which he approached the police.

Traffic curbs near Vidhana Soudha today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Traffic in and around Vidhana Soudha will be diverted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on September 15 owing to International Democracy Day celebrations on the steps of Vidhana Soudha.

Vehicles will not be allowed from K.R. Circle towards Gopala Gowda Circle, and from Balekundri Circle towards K.R. Circle.

Vehicles moving from K.R. Circle will be diverted to Nrupathunga Road, and vehicles from Balekundri Circle will be diverted towards Queens Circle.

However, vehicles moving from CTO Circle can proceed towards Raj Bhavan Road, but they cannot take a left into Ambedkar Veedhi.

Public can park their vehicles at Palace Grounds (bus and other LGV), Kanteerava Stadium, planetarium and M.S. Building.

Silver Jubilee

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Youth are the future of this country, said K.J. George, Minister for Energy, on Thursday.

He was speaking as as the chief guest at the silver jubilee celebration programme of Kristu Jayanti College.

Confusion over transfers continues

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Confusion over transfers of IPS officers continued on Thursday as the State government posted Kuldeep Kumar Jain to DCP, traffic, east division, after transferring Sara Fathima without posting. Ms. Fathima, serving as Superintendent of Police in the Crime Investigation Department, was transferred as DCP, traffic, east division a few days ago before she was transferred again without any posting.

Public evoked
Earlier, the transfer of Mr. Jain as the Mangaluru Police Commissioner evoked a strong response from members of the public, who accused the government of transferring a commissioner who was doing good work and streamlining the system.

According to sources in the department, within six months of assuming the position, Mr. Jain had cracked the whip on drug peddlers, vigilantism, and gangs, and looked into the traffic problem which had been bothering Mangaluru for a long time.

Unusual postings
Even though the government cited technical reasons for the transfer and replaced him with a DIG rank officer, many in the force argue that the same logic was not applied in posting an SP rank officer for the post of commissioner in Hubballi-Dharwad. Many police officials alleged that the ruling Congress government's transfer process is demoralising good officers.

The transfer of Suralkar Vikas Kishor as Secretary of the Karnataka Public Service Commission to Zonal commissioner (R.R. Nagar), BBMP also resulted in a protest by KPSC aspirants. Sources said Mr. Kishor was trying to streamline the system in KPSC to bring transparency and accountability in the examination and selection process in the commission.

ED attaches properties belonging to Chinese company in scam case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) have attached the movable assets worth ₹6.47 crore, including ₹71.3 lakh in the form of cryptocurrency in the China-linked part time job fraud case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

The ED initiated an investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by the South CEN police station, Bengaluru related to the part-time job fraud. A release said the investigation revealed that gullible youth were cheated by certain Chinese persons through a mobile app, "Keepsharer," through which they promised to give part-time jobs to people and collected money from them.

These Chinese nationals, according to the ED officials, formed companies in India and recruited many Indians as directors, translators, HR Managers, and Tele callers. The app was linked with an investment app. They collected money from the public in the name of investment through this app.

"The attached amount pertains to six companies, namely Toningworld International Private Limited, Ansol Technology Private Limited, Redraccoon Services India Private Limited, Energico Digital private Limited, Bridge Tera Technologies Private Limited, Ashenfallous Technologies Private Limited, and nine individuals.

The money collected through scam was routed from the bank accounts of these companies/individuals and then converted into cryptocurrency and then transferred to China-based Crypto exchanges," said the ED.

INBRIEF

Mop-up round UGNEET: Participation extended

The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has informed that the candidates who have already been allotted medical undergraduate seats can also participate in the medical mop-up round along with the unallotted candidates.

S. Ramya, Executive Director of KEA stated in a press release on Thursday that the decision has been taken in the background of 482 'P' (Private) seats and 37 'G' (Government) undergraduate medical seats remaining unfilled due to non-payment of fees.

From Page One

IS terror 'conspirator' from Shivamogga district held in Delhi

Arafath Ali had allegedly funded Shariq to carry out acts of terror. He had reportedly transferred money to Shariq a couple of times.

The agency alleged that Arafath Ali was in regular touch with the other accused persons in the case and was actively involved in the planning and execution of the conspiracy.

Mangaluru case
According to NIA investigations, he was also responsible for the two Mangaluru graffiti cases of 2020 wherein, at his instance, accused Mohamed Shariq and Maaz Muneer Ahmed had written "Don't force us to Invite Lashkar-e-Taiba and Taliban to deal with Sanghis and Manvedis #Lashkar Zindabad" on the walls, it said.

Tree branch saves college student's life

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 22-year-old student of a private college, who attempted to end her life by jumping from the Ramadevara Betta in Ramanagara on Wednesday evening, was saved by a tree branch.

According to the police, the victim, pursuing BSc at a private university, was depressed due to exam pressure. On Wednesday, she reached Ramadevara Betta and in an attempt to end her life, she jumped but got stuck to the branch of a tree and was injured.

The Ramanagara rural police said that the victim escaped with minor injuries and is said to be out of danger. *(Those having distress or suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani on 104 for help).*

Woman in trouble after downloading fraudulent app

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A 24-year-old Public Relations (PR) executive Sneha Singh (name changed) landed in trouble after she accidentally downloaded a fraudulent loan app while she was searching for a video editing application. Just minutes after the app was downloaded, scamsters stole a photograph of her even as she uninstalled the app realising the mistake. Ms. Singh has filed a complaint at Halasuru police station. She said she started to receive messages saying that she had borrowed a loan of ₹3,500 and she has to pay it back immediately.

Ms. Singh told *The Hindu* that for about two days, she was getting calls continuously and when picked up a call, a man on the other side speaking in Hindi hurled abuses and asked her to pay the money. "I told him that I had not taken any money from the app. But the caller refused to listen," she said.

SWR to run special train to Murdeshwar today

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The South Western Railway has decided to operate a special train between Yeshwantpur and Murdeshwar to clear extra rush of passengers due to Ganesha Chaturthi.

Train timings
Train No. 06587 Yeshwantpur-Murdeshwar Special leaves Yeshwantpur at 11.55 p.m. on Friday, September 15, via Chikkabanavara, 12.07 a.m., Nelamangala, 12.25 a.m, Kunigal, 12.55 a.m., Shravanabelagola, 1.42 a.m., Channarayapatna, 1.58 a.m., Hassan, 3.25 a.m., Sakleshpur, 4.50 a.m., Subrahmanya Road, 7.30 a.m., Kabakaputtur, 8.15 a.m., Bantwal, 8.57 a.m., Surathkal, 10 a.m., Mulki, 10.18 a.m., Udupi, 10.42 a.m., Barkur, 10.58 a.m., Kundapura, 11.16 a.m., Byndoor, 11.42 a.m., and Bhatkal 12.02 p.m. to reach Murdeshwar at 12.55 p.m., said South Western Railway Chief PRO Aneesh Hegde in a communique.

Return journey
Train No. 06588 Murdeshwar-Yeshwantpur Special leaves Murdeshwar at 1.30 p.m. on September 16 (Saturday) to reach Yeshwantpur at 4 a.m. the next day. The special trains will have a coach composition of one AC first class, two AC-2 tier, seven AC-3 tier, eight sleeper class, two luggage-cum-brake van coaches.

'*Vishwa Shantigagi Hindu Dharma*' - theme of street Ganesha pandals' federation this year

GANESHA CHATURTHI

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

The pandals will have posters with the history, principles, and messages about Hinduism while cultural programmes will also be organised on the same theme. FILE PHOTO

It is that time of the year when Bengaluru's street turn festive as numerous committees celebrate Ganesha Chaturthi in their localities. Close to 3000 small committees, under the umbrella organisation Bengaluru Mahanagara Ganesha Utsava Samithi (BMGUS), are gearing up for the celebrations and this year, and the theme for Ganesha pandals is "*Vishwa Shantigagi Hindu Dharma*" (Hinduism for world peace).

The pandals will have posters with the history, principles, and messages about Hinduism while cultural programmes will also be organised along the same theme. Speakers who have in-depth knowledge about the religion will also be invited, organisers said.

Idea of non-violence
"We will provide information about all the countries where the religion is prominent, how the religion propagates the idea of non-violence and not attacking anyone. Through these messages we want to let people know how Hinduism can be used for world peace," said Rajanna, a general secretary of the BMGUS. The celebrations at most localities will begin around September 18 (Ganesh Chaturthi) and will be wrapped within 15 days. Depending on the capacities of individual committees, the celebrations will go on for three, five or eleven days, an organiser said. "We started our preparations on Wednesday. We have also planned Indian dance and music performances which emphasise on our country," said Subramani, of Navodaya Geleyara Balaga in Nagawara.

The pandal will be set up near Nagawara circle and around 5,000 to 10,000 people are expected to attend the programmes every day. To be environmentally conscious, the committee preordered mud Ganesha two months ago.

"We have specially ordered a Bhima themed Ganesha. We only use mud idols as we do not want to cause harm to the environment. Government norms aside, we want to be conscious," Mr. Subramani said.

The BMGUS has also appealed to its members to use PoP idols only for decoration and procession purposes, and not immerse them in water. "We have told them to bring them back after the procession and reuse them next year, Mr. Rajanna said.

Focus on social work
Apart from religious celebrations, a few committees also take up social work during the Ganesha festival. "We conduct programmes like blood donation camps, distribution of ration kits to blind people and school bags to government school children," said Shashidhar who is part of Basaveshwaranagar Ganesha Samithi.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, SEP. 15	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:21
RISE 06:13	SET 18:40
SATURDAY, SEP. 16	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:20
RISE 06:58	SET 19:15
SUNDAY, SEP. 17	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:20
RISE 07:44	SET 19:50

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	31	22
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
31°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Government primary schools with only one teacher in Gujarat

926 The State education Minister Kuber Dindor said the schools were functioning with only one teacher because posts were lying vacant due to different reasons. PTI

Slight rise in wholesale inflation in August; remains in negative

-0.52 in percentage. Wholesale price-based inflation remained in the negative for the fifth straight month in August, but prices of food and fuel showed an uptick. PTI

Amount of sugar to be imported by Nepal from India

20 In thousand metric tonnes. The decision comes ahead of the upcoming festivals to meet domestic demand. According to the Nepal Ministry spokesperson, they have given a 50% discount on customs duty. PTI

Number of primary teachers in Odisha who took mass leave

1.3 in lakh. Teachers staged an agitation for the abolition of the contractual appointment system and the reimplementation of old pensions. About 54,000 schools across the State were closed down. PTI

Number of Chinese warplanes detected around Taiwan

68 Dozens of Chinese warplanes and 10 navy ships were detected around Taiwan, authorities in Taipei said. China claims self-ruled Taiwan as its territory. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

IN THE LIMELIGHT

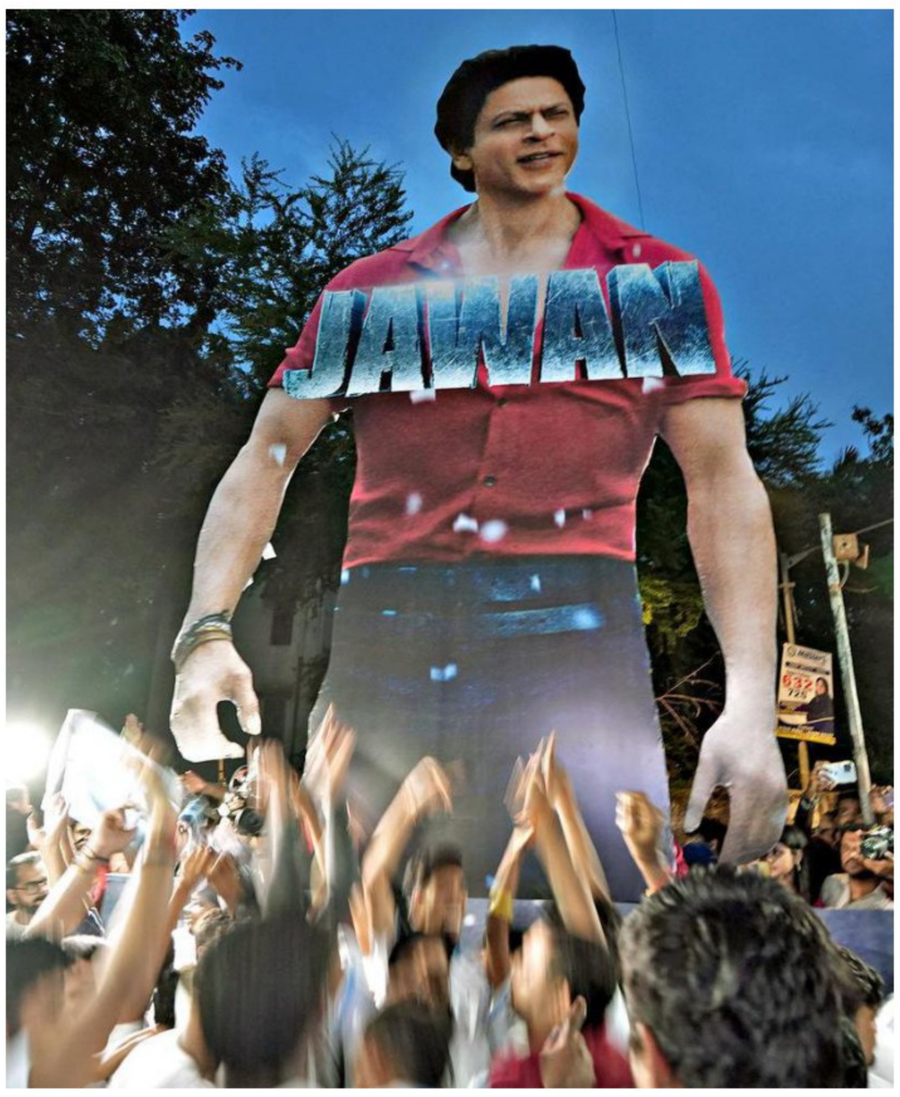
Decoding the political messaging of *Jawan*

While the Shah Rukh-starrer raises issues that have been missing from the discourse of mainstream Hindi cinema for some time, the treatment is more like bumper sticker activism that shoots and scoots

Anuj Kumar

In 2018, when audience and critics were coming to terms with films pushing the schemes and ideology of the current dispensation, there came *Mulk*, the tale of a practising Muslim whose family was hounded and declared anti-national by his neighbours because one of his family members was found involved in a terror attack. The film stands up for Murad, the protagonist, and says that the country is as much his as any other Indian's. At that time, director Anubhav Sinha told this journalist the film was a "propaganda of my version of nationalism."

Another Lok Sabha election is around the corner and pro and anti-establishment voices are once again reverberating in the air. The latter has been feeble till Shah Rukh Khan's *Jawan* hit the screens last week. Beneath the shining coat of swashbuckling action, *Jawan* is as ordinary as *Gadar 2* but riding on the immense following of Shah Rukh and Sunny Deol both manage to effectively package their political messages in a masala roll for an audience hungry for desi mass entertainers after a rash of manufactured realism on OTT platforms.



Fan craze: People cheer near a cut-out of Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan outside a cinema hall as they arrive to watch the screening of his latest film *Jawan* in Mumbai, on September 7. PTI

Shah Rukh's political statement

It is a myth that Shah Rukh Khan in his more than three-decade-long career has stayed away from the socio-political realities of the day and focused only on escapist cinema. *Jawan* is his most in-your-face attempt but in the past, he has headlined satires such as *Oh! Darling Ye Hai India* to *Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani* and gave voice to deep-seated discontent in *Swades*, *My Name Is Khan*, *Chak De! India* and *Raees*. The last one shows a Muslim bootlegger's rise in Gujarat where the sale of liquor is prohibited. In his films, the hero's political stance and anguish against the system come from a deeply personal space. Subversion is not new for Shah Rukh. In the Rahul Dholakia film, young Raees is prescribed spectacles by the doctor but his mother can't afford them. So, he steals the glasses of Mahatma Gandhi's statue in the city centre. Raees goes on to become a good man who does bad things. Much like Azaad in Jawan, a policeman who hijacks a train and steals EVMs for the larger good.

Perhaps, because of the limited box office success of Raees and the changed political atmosphere, in the last few years, Shah Rukh's silence is speaking more than his words on the state of affairs in the country. But this year, the actor has again spoken up through his work and how. In fact, there is a song called Zinda Banda in *Jawan* to perhaps remind us that he is around.

The tone in *Jawan* is matter-of-fact, in fact, hard-headed. Azaad, son of a soldier Vikram Rathore, lectures the audience to ask those seeking their votes, "What will they do for you?" Drawing from eminent Urdu poet Waseem Barelvi's popular couplet, he sings, "*Usulon Pe Jahan Aanch Aaye Takrana Zaroori, Banda Zinda Ho to Nazar Aana Zaroori Hai*" (When principles are at stake, one must fight. This battle is what keeps you alive).

Keeping it simple, the film bases its argument on discrimination in lending rates to farmers and corporates, farmer suicides, a creaking healthcare system, and corruption in defence deals, issues that are very much relevant but largely missing from the landscape of mainstream news and cinema north of the Vindhyas. The case of Dr. Eerum (Sanya Malhotra) who is falsely implicated in a case of medical negligence reminds us of Dr. Kafeel Khan's ordeal. More importantly, Rathore and son take on a corporate honcho, the villain of the piece, who is eager to monetise the country's natural resources because he feels he can circumvent the democratic process. It rings a bell!

Inclusive approach

It is not just the cast. The span of the narrative is spread across the country, an exercise in national integration. Rathore is saved by a tribe from the North East and when he repays in kind, a child of the tribe promises to trace his backstory and eventually becomes the connecting link between Rathore and his son who is born in jail much like the mythical Krishna, and is brought up by the female inmates. When he breaks into *Ramaiya Vastvaiyya*, the hook phrase in Telugu is not just a tribute to the socialist idiom of lyricist Shailendra in *Shree 420* but also a call to make haste to usher in change.

Friends from the South are not surprised because they are overfed with action entertainers which have a distinct anti-establishment tone. Rajinikanth's *Jailer* released alongside *Jawan* feels like it has been cut from a similar cloth, just that the sharpness of the scissors differs. Writer-director Atlee hails from Shankar's school where poetic justice is served at the pace of a rap song. Those who loved *Nayak* and *Indian* would appreciate the bumper sticker wokeness of *Jawan*. When the farmer in *Jawan* hangs himself for the future of his daughter it reminds of Pakshiraja ending his life in *2.0*. Both deserved a more sensitive gaze, both demanded a trigger warning. And if the makers were really keen on the audience appreciating a layer of subversion, why this fascination for upper caste surnames? Why not tell the story of a Vikram Yadav or Vikram Pasi in a multiplex?

The pan-Indian influence

It is not that the North Indian audience is not aware of the cut-to-cut style of storytelling where little time is given to the audience to absorb the intensity of the emotion. They have been watching and appreciating dubbed content for a long time and were keen to have a Hindi film hero in the midst of *whistle podu* moments.

From time to time Hindi film stars have taken the spice route. Shah Rukh himself boarded *Chennai Express* almost a decade back but his soft, romantic image prevented him from showcasing his unbridled swagger and raspy voice that defined him in the early years of his career and something that hadn't been tapped by Bollywood filmmakers for some time. It is the pull of the latest pan-Indian wave that has emanated from the South that is pushing the Hindi film universe to reimagine its stars. By creating a network of strong female characters around him, Atlee has tried to retain Shah Rukh's image in the male saviour dynamics that operate in the director's territory but it doesn't hold.

At times, it seems Atlee wants to button-hold the audience to eke out emotions for the oppressed but after a long hush, sometimes even clatter sounds like a rhythmic melody. Towards the end, when the head of the state asks an officer his view on the exploits of Azaad, he says, his ways may be wrong but his *maqsad* (purpose) is right.

It sounds like an admission of the shoot and scoot activism that the film propagates.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Mr. K. Anup Raj wants to know the meaning of 'Discretion is the better part of valour'."

" 'Discretion' means being discreet, prudent, careful. The sentence means that it is better to be careful rather than take risks, better to be prudent rather than foolhardy. 'Discretion' also means 'freedom to act according to one's own judgment, to do what seems right'.

Don't ask me what you should do. You know the situation better. Use your discretion."

"Sir, Mr. T. Krishnamoorthy wants to know the meaning of 'visa'."

" 'Visa' is an endorsement in a passport signifying that the document is in order and permitting its bearer to travel into the country of the government issuing it. It is from Latin 'visa' which means 'things seen'. It came into English through French."

"Sir, Mr. V. Kanagaraj wants to know the meaning of *in situ*."

"It is a Latin expression meaning 'in its original place'.

When archaeologists excavated the place, they found some pots in situ."

"Sir, Mr. P. C. Vinodkumar wants to know the difference between 'bathe' and 'bath'."

" 'Bath' as a verb rhymes with 'path'. He means 'to give a bath to a person'. 'She is bathing the baby' means that she is giving a bath to the baby. It also means 'to have a bath'.

He was bathing when I went to see him.

'Bathe' rhymes with 'faith', but the 'th' is pronounced like the 'th' in 'then'. You bath at home, but 'bathe' in a river, sea or a swimming pool. 'Bathe' also means 'to apply water, to soak in water'.

The doctor bathed his wound.

'To be bathed in' means 'to be made wet or bright all over'.

He was bathed in sweat.

In British English, 'bathe' is used as a noun also. It means 'a swim in a river, sea or lake'.

We had a nice bathe in the sea."

"Sir, Miss Shailaja Pathak, Patna, wants to know the meaning of 'beauty lies in the eye of the beholder'."

"It means that what one person considers beautiful may not be considered beautiful by another. 'Beholder' means 'a person who sees'."

Published in The Hindu on May 23, 1989

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Legendary English writer, Agatha Christie, known for her detective novels was born on this day in 1890. Here is a quiz on the queen of crime novels and her works

Abhinaya. K

QUESTION 1

Agatha Christie wrote six semi-autobiographical novels under a pseudonym and kept the fact that she was the author a secret for almost 20 years. What was the pseudonym?

QUESTION 2

Christie dedicated her book Hallowe'en Party to a prolific English writer and a noted humorist. She is said to have admired this writer. Name him.

QUESTION 3

The Big Four, *The Mystery of the Blue Train*, *Death on the Nile*, *The Shadow on the Glass*. Which book among the four is not a part of the Hercule Poirot series?

QUESTION 4

One of Christie's plays, *The Mousetrap,* set the world record for the longest continuous run at one theatre. Which theatre did it play in and how many shows?

QUESTION 5

The noted novelist is said to have disappeared for nearly two weeks. The incident made national headlines and a manhunt was launched with several officers and volunteers. She was found later at a hotel in Yorkshire, England. After what incident did Christie disappear?

QUESTION 6

One of Christie's creations included this detective cum heart specialist. Name him.

Visual question:
The image is from a movie which is based on the 1937 novel of the same name by Christie. Name the film. FILE PHOTO

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The script in which modern Hindi is written. **Ans: Devanagiri**
2. The Minister responsible for the Department of Official Languages. **Ans: Home Minister**
3. The first tribal language to be included in the Eighth Schedule. **Ans: Bodo**
4. This is the most widely spoken language of a neighbouring country of India's. **Ans: Nepali**
5. The last Governor-General of India. **Ans: C. Rajagopalachari**
6. This leader spoke these words in the Constituent Assembly during the language debate, "I venture to put this question to the enthusiasts for Hindi, because in some of the speeches I have listened here ...very much a tone of the Hindi-speaking area being the centre of things in India, the centre of gravity, and others being just the fringes of India. That is not only an incorrect approach, but it is a dangerous approach." **Ans: Jawaharlal Nehru**
Visual: Name the language. **Ans: Tulu**
Early Birds: Himani Verma| Raashi Pathak| Hemant Kumar| Srinivasa Raghavan

Word of the day

Apathy:
an absence of emotion or enthusiasm; the trait of lacking enthusiasm for or interest in things generally

Synonyms: indifference, numbness

Usage: *The apathy of the kids next door should be addressed.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/apathypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈæ.pə.θi/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Kodalikaruppur Silk Saree : a green grace naturally dyed with mulberry was once a bridal essential exclusively graced by the royalties of 18th century Tanjore empire.

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Government of Karnataka
Office of The District Surgeon, District Hospital, Chitradurga
Telephone/Fax: 08194-234710, e-mail: dschitradurga@gmail.com
No.: DHC/Development/(2)/2023-24 Date: 12.09.2023

E-Procurement Tender Notice

Inviting Tender through e-procurement for availing supply of Medicines, Injections, Consumables required at District Hospital, Chitradurga for the year 2023-24, Reg. Tender is invited in two cover system theough e-procurement portal as per Karntaka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999-2000. Eligible Tenderers can submit Tender through http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further information can be obtained at the above address.

Sl. No	Tender Notice No.	Materials/Medicines, Chemicals to be supplied	Tender Amount	E.M.D. Amount
1	DCH/Supply/Tablets/03/2023-24	Tablets	149.92 Lakhs	Rs. 3.74.821/-
2	DCH/Supply/Injectios/04/2023-24	Injections	149.89 Lakhs	Rs. 3.74.746/-
3	DCH/Supply/Consumables/05/2023-24	Consumables	24.92 Lakhs	Rs. 62,300/-
4	DCH/Supply/06/2023-24	Drugs and Disposables	149.97 Lakhs	Rs. 3,74,925/-

(1) Period for submission of e-Tender Documents From 12.09.2023 to 12.10.2023 (2) Last Date for submission of e-Tender 12.10.2023 up to 4.30 PM (3) Date of opening Technical Bid 16.10.2023 at 10.00 AM
Technical Bids of the Tenderers who have submitted e-Tender will be examined and Financial Bids of the eligible Tenderers will be opened. All Tenders should be submitted separately.

RO.No.195:DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/2023-24 **Sd/- District Surgeon, District Hospital, Chitradurga**

REGIONAL APPOINTMENT

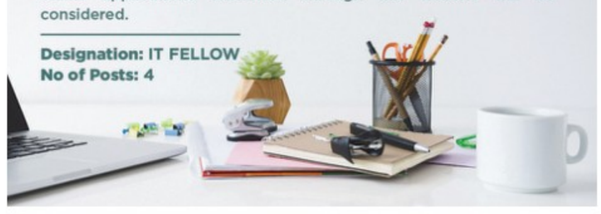
kerala it

INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSTS OF IT FELLOWS

Government of Kerala is looking for outstanding management professionals for the post of the IT Fellows to support the High-Power IT Committee (HPIC) that has been constituted to promote Kerala as a preferred investment destination for the knowledge industry and create high-value jobs and R&D opportunities at a rapid pace.

Interested candidates may please visit www.technopark.org/careers for more details and submit an online application along with copies of certificates and testimonials on or before 14th October 2023. Only online applications submitted through this website will be considered.

Designation: IT FELLOW
No of Posts: 4



Agriculture Produce Market Committee
Sri Channabasava swamy Gunj, Gangavathi-583227
E-mail : apmcgangavathi@gmail.com T : 08533-270265 Fax : 08533-270265
S. No. AMD/APMC /GVT/DEV/TENDER/1044 /2023-24 Date: 12/09/2023

Short term E-Tender Notification.

Agricultural produce market committee, Gangavathi invites Construction of CC Road, RCC Drains and Culverts works at main Market Yard of APMC, Gangavathi under RIDF-28 Scheme tender through e-procurement only in 2 cover system for the item rate basis from the eligible PWD class I civil contractors. The Tenderers are required to submit the requisite details through website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in as per KTTP rules and norms.
Schedule of Events: 01)Publication Of Notification : **15-09-2023.** 02)Pre BID Meeting Date & time: **25-09-2023 11:00 AM.** 03)Last date & time for receipt of Tenders: **05-10-2023 4:00 PM.** 04)Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid: **07-10-2023 4:30 AM on wards.** 05)Date & time for opening of financial Bid: **19-10-2023 11:00 AM on wards**
01.**Name of work:** Construction of CC Road, RCC Drains and Culverts works at main Market Yard of APMC, Gangavathi under RIDF-28 Scheme. **Amount put to Tender (in Rs. Lakhs):** 417.42. **EMD(in Rs. Lakhs):** 6.26. **Eligiblity of contractor:** PWD Class-I CIVIL Contractor. **CompletionPeriod of work:** 175 days (excluding mansoon)
Any additional information and conditions can be obtained from Website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or by contacting Karnataka Government E-Procurement help Desk, 080-22485867 or Secretary, APMC, GANGAVATHI, 08533-270265 on all working days. Changes if any in the tender notification shall be made known only in the Website. APMC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.

SD/- Secretary, APMC, Gangavathi | **DIPR/Koppal/143/KSMCA/2023-24** | **SD/- Administrator, APMC, Gangavathi**

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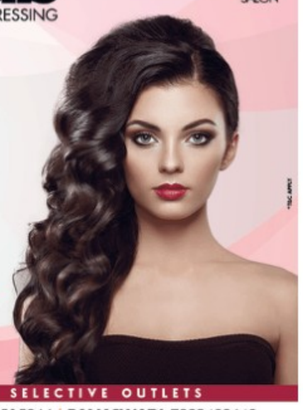

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NOTICE

All the tenders* issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of BCCL **www.bcclweb.in,** Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement portal **https://eprocure.gov.in.** In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in.**
*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic/Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.

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No:SVPISTM/ACAD–145/RECRUITMENT/2 15-09-2023

WALK – IN INTERVIEW

Applications are invited from eligible candidates in the prescribed format for appointment to various posts in the Academic / Admin department purely on temporary basis for a period of one year.
Interested eligible candidates should send the duly filled Application Form in the prescribed format along with all relevant documents on or before 23-09-2023. They should report at the Institute for an interview on the respective date and time. For information regarding Posts, qualifications, interview schedules, application forms, etc., **please visit : www.svpistm.ac.in**
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43rd ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE

It is hereby notified that the 43rd Annual General Body Meeting of the Society for the year 2022-23 will be held on Sunday the **24th September 2023 at 10.30 AM** at Palace Sheesh Mahal, Palace Grounds, Gate No.7, Bellary Road, Bengaluru – 560 080. Sri G. Babu, President of the Society will preside. All the Members and Associate Members are requested to kindly attend meeting. Notice is already sent by post.

For and on behalf of the Board of Management
Sd/- Secretary
Telecom Employees' Co-Operative Housing Society Limited, Bengaluru-560020

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 15.09.2023

By e-Despatch / By e-Mail : E-mail : serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com
Government of Odisha
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR.
Office order No. 2447/WE // Dated. 13.09.2023
1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Bridge Tender Online RWCSBP-29/2023-24

Due to unavoidable circumstances, some changes in class of contractor and amount put to tender are hereby made to the notice invited vide this office Bid ID No.Bridge Tender Online RWCSBP-29/2023-24 (Copy enclosed as annexure).
All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.
O-1038 : OIPR-25091/11/0047/2324

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
Estate Officer, UAS, Raichur
No. EO/UASR/TND-161/2023-24 Date:- 13-09-2023.

E - TENDER NOTIFICATION

Item rate tender is invited on behalf of University of Agril. Sciences Raichur, as per KPWD standard document (KW-II, KW-II & KW-IV) under two cover system from registered contractors of K.P.W.D. / C.P.W.D. for the Civil works at Other Stations, through e-procurement platform. The details of the notification, schedule of events, and specifications can be had by visiting the link https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in there by registering with kppp platform.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders.	12-10-2023	upto	16:00 hrs
2	Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid.	13-10-2023	at	16:10 hrs
3	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid.	20-10-2023	at	16:00 hrs

For more details, please contact the office of the under signed during office hours (Ph. No. 08532 - 220640) and visit the link https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in for detailed tender notification. Also contact helpdesk number: 080 - 25501216 & 080 - 25501227

DIP/RCR/128/KSMC&A/Job No.125/2023-24 **Sd/- ESTATE OFFICER, U.A.S, RAICHUR.**

Government of Karnataka
(Prisons and Correctional Service)
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT, CENTRAL PRISON, KALABURAGI. PIN CODE: 585102
Ph.: 08472-212567/554, Fax No.: 08472-212505 e-mail: cpgbg.prisons-kar@gov.in
No.: CPK/Tender/2023-24 Date: 13.09.2023

SHORT-TERM RE E-TENDER NOTICE (CALL-2)

(Only through KPPP portal System)

Short-Term e-Tender is invited from eligible suppliers for purchase of prepared food items required for the prisoners lodged in Sub-Jail without kitchen, Sedam coming under the jurisdiction of Central Prison, Kalaburagi for the year 2023-24. Details are as below.
1) Details: **Supply of prepared food items required for the prisoners lodged in Sub-Jail, Sedam Taluk.** 2) Commencement date for uploading Tender Form: **13.09.2023.** 3) Approx. amount of Tender: **Rs. 57,52,400-00.** 4) EMD Amount: Rs. 1,15,048-00. 5) Cost of Tender Application and EMD Amount: As per e-procurement. 6) Date for enquiry/ clarification regarding Tender: **20.09.2023 up to 5.00 PM.** 7) Last date for uploading Tender Form: **22.09.2023 up to 5.30 PM.** 8) Date of opening Technical Cover: **25.09.2023 at 11.00 AM.** 9) Date of opening Financial Cover: **27.09.2023 at 11.30 AM.** 10) Address to be contacted for further details: Office of The Chief Superintendent, Jevargi Road, Central Prison, Kalaburagi.Ph. No.: 08472-212567. 11) Website address: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Kalaburagi/278/KSMC&A/2023-24 **Sd/- Chief Superintendent, Central Prison, Kalaburagi.**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ms Prabhavat, D/o Late Mr Muniswamy was residing in No 34, 6th cross Kanakanagar RT nagar post Bangalore 32. My self Mr MM Samson residing in 1st floor above said address, as you are a tenant of my above said address are due with the rent and electricity bill about 18lakh and absconding since from January 2021 till date, your contact number has been switched off, your agreement has been terminated. Hence, I here by request you kindly report in DJ halli police station Bangalore PO1402230600234 within 7days of this publish, if fail further action would be taken legally.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sandeep Suresh Dalvi R/o Smq No. 144/01, Red Quarters, Command Hospital Air Force, Agram Post, Bengaluru-07 have changed my minor daughter's name from "Shambhavi" to "Shambhavi Sandeep Dalvi" vide Maharashtra Govt Gazette- RNI No. MAHBIL/2012/48006 dated 10-16 March 2022

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SADHIYA A, W/o Amjad Khan, R/a No.294, 8th Cross, B Block, New Lingarajpuram, Bangalore-560084 have changed my name to Sadhiya Khanum vide affidvit dt: 14.09.2023 sworn before Notary N.Kanchivaradaraju, B'lore.

I, ZAMROODH Begum, W/o Nawab Baig Musa, R/at No.23/2, 3rd Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003, have changed my name from Zamroodh Begum to Zamrud Begaum vide affidavit dated 13-09-2023 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore

I, HASSENA Banu, W/o Faziulla Shraiff, R/o Ward No.21, Railway Station Road, Opp. Srinivasa Sastry House, Chowdeshwari Oni, Chintamani-563125 have changed my name from Hassena Banu to Haseena Banu vide affidavit dated 14-09-2023 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE 28th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGLORE (CCH-29)
O.S. NO. 26939/2022
BETWEEN
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400 051 and its branch office at Mythree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068
Represented its Collection Manager and POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa
...Plaintiff
And
Sri. Sarvaraju G V
...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
To,
Sri. Sarvaraju GV,
S/o Sri. Venkataramanaiah,
Aged about 28 years,
No.17, 1093, Royal Country Main Road, Parappana Agarahara, Electronic City Post, Bangalore- 560 100

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 5,82,123/- (Rupees Five Lakh Eighty Two Thousand One Hundred Twenty Three Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 28th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge **(CCH- 29)** in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **25/09/2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **07/09/2023.**

BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT DEPUTY REGISTRAR, CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT, BANGALORE
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
S.A. Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AJITH Kumar Bhaskar, R/a No.83, 3rd Floor, 2nd Main, 8th Cross, Manjunathnagar, Chikkalasandra, Bangalore-560061 have changed my name to Ajith Nayak Bhaskar vide affidavit dt: 14.09.2023 sworn before Notary Smt.A.Manjula, B'luru

I, TAHIRA Begum, W/o Mahiuddin Khan, R/at No.36, 37th Cross, 19th Main, 1st Stage, 5th Block, H.B.R. Layout Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name from Tahira Begum to Tahira Bano vide affidavit dated 12-09-2023 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

I, MAHIUDDIN, S/o Abdul Hafiz, R/at No. 36, 37th Cross, 19th Main, 1st Stage, 5th Block, H.B.R. Layout, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name from Mahiuddin to Mahiuddin Khan vide affidavit dated 12-09-2023 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE IV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL, UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH- 21)
O.S. No. 25698/2022
Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Land mark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051 and its branch office at Mythree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068
Represented by its Collection Manager and POA Holder Sri Pramodh Gurumallappa B
...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Themre Isho Zimik
...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
To,
Mr. Themre Isho Zimik
S/o Mr. Mashunstone Zimik,
No. 29, Impact Residency,
5th Main, 4th Cross, BBMP Anasappa Layout,
Kalyannagar, Bangalore-560084

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 4,33,431/- (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty One Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble IV Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-21) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **05/10/2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **26/08/2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall Unit, Bangalore
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
S A Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560047

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, M V Santhosh, S/o G Venkatesh, R/a No.003/1, Udupi Heights, 1st Phase Main Road, Near Siddaganga School, Chandra Layout, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072 have changed my name to Simon Moses vide affidavit dt: 13.09.2023 sworn before Notary L.Gopalakrishna, B'lore.

I, KAVITHA Lobo, W/o Carlton Anthony Jude Jacob, R/o No.16, 4th Main , Lakshminarayana Layout, Munnekolala, Marathahalli Post, Bengaluru-560037 have changed my name to Anita Jacob vide affidavit dt: 14.09.2023 sworn before Notary L.Gopalakrishna, B'lore.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE IV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL, UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH 21)
O.S. No. 25841/2021
Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Land mark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400 051 and its branch office at Mythree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068
Represented by its Collection Manager and POA Holder Sri. Pramodh Gurumallappa B
...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Syed Khazim Pasha & Another ...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT NO. 1 & 2
To,
D1. Mr. Syed Khazim Pasha, S/o Mr. Syed Khazim, No. 54, H M Green Oak, 3rd Floor, Jayamahal Ward, Benson Town, Anjaneya Swamy Temple, Bangalore- 560 032
D2. Mr. Syed Khader Pasha, S/o Mr. Syed Khazim Pasha, No. 54, H M Green Oak, 3rd Floor, Jayamahal Ward, Benson Town, Anjaneya Swamy Temple, Bangalore-560 032

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 10,35,249/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Two Hundred Forty Nine Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble IV Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (CCH-21) in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **05/10/2023** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **26/08/2023**

By Order of the Hon'ble Court Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayohall Unit, Bangalore
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
S A Associates,
No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560047

M BG-BGE

A still from the Kannada film *Daredevil Musthafa.* SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

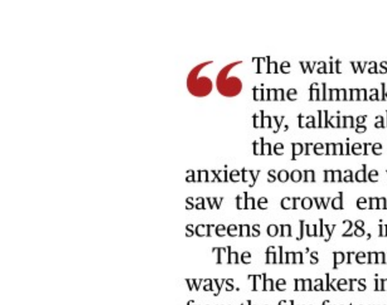
How Kannada cinema debunked the pan-India theory

Small-scale films with fresh concepts focused on niche audiences have adopted unique promotional strategies to succeed at the box office, unlike the big budget films earlier this year, finds **Vivek M.V.**

"The wait was nerve-wracking," says first-time filmmaker Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy, talking about the days that led up to the premiere of her film *Aachar & Co.* Her anxiety soon made way for happiness when she saw the crowd embrace the film when it hit screens on July 28, in Bengaluru.

The film's premiere was unusual in many ways. The makers invited journalists and people from the film fraternity to a single-screen viewing instead of a multiplex. The Cauvery theatre in the city was lit up with LED serial lights, and the movie hall's entrance was decorated with flowers. There was even a traditional lamp at the centre of the decoration. Women graced the red carpet in sarees. The carefully planned event exuded the vibe of a family get-together, the kind of experience the makers wanted people to have while watching *Aachar & Co.*

The film, which attempted to cash in on the power of nostalgia, told the story of a big, conservative family in Bengaluru in the 1960s and 70s. Co-written by Murthy and stand-up comedian Kanan Gill, *Aachar & Co* tried to entice middle-aged women – who don't often go to the cinemas for various reasons – to experience the magic of the big screen again.



Age no bar

"Our oldest viewer was a 99-year-old woman. She had come to watch the film on a multiplex screen in Koramangala with her grandchildren. It thrilled and moved me in equal measure," says Sindhu. "Our target audience was women aged between 30 and 35 years, but we saw women over 70 and 80, who could barely walk, come to see our movie. People sent me pictures of families with 15 to 20 members watching the show together."

Fruitful second half

The performance of Kannada films in the first and second half of 2023 is a study of contrasts. Big-budget films, such as *Kranti and Kabzaa*, turned out to be damp squibs. However, the second half of the year saw a consistent flow of quality releases such as *Daredevil Musthafa, Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare, Aachar & Co,* and *Kousalya Supraja Rama.*

Kousalya Supraja Rama was made by Shashank, an experienced filmmaker, whereas *Aachar & Co, Daredevil Musthafa and Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare,* were directed by debutants. These films, made with moderate budgets, told relatable stories to the Kannada-speaking audience without the intention of pandering to a pan-India audience.

Shashank Soghal's *Daredevil Musthafa,* based on the famous story of Poornachandra Tejaswi, spurred a change in industry trends. "We made a film that everyone could enjoy, and the story was the real hero," says Shashank Soghal about his college drama that highlights the importance of different communities coexisting in harmony.

> Earlier, a director had to convince a producer by talking about the benefits from the audio and satellite rights. Today, a producer is excited about a pan-India release without knowing the ground realities. The fact remains that they couldn't create another KGF-like result.
>
> **S. SHYAM PRASAD**

Darling Krishna and Brinda Acharya in *Kousalya Supraja Rama*

Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy in *Aachar & Co*

A still from 'Daredevil Musthafa'

Aachar & Co focused on the small joys of living in much simpler times than now. "We gave a modern touch to the M.S. Subbalakshmi's *Suprabhatha* song, and it went viral. I am a big fan of the pre-technology era. A lot of us are in a constant race, and we are overloaded with information. We desperately want to go back to those beautiful times. The film even showed that women made something of themselves while also taking family responsibilities back then," Sindhu says.

Meanwhile, *Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare,* by Nithin Krishnamurthy, was an unconventional film that broke several filmmaking rules. A college comedy, the film was shot in a *cinema verite* style. The dialogues felt spontaneous, and the hand-held camera remained in observational mode throughout to give a fly-on-the-wall effect to the viewers. The result? Youngsters thronged to cinema halls multiple times, cheering up the struggling theatre owners.

Of course, they loved the humour, chaotic drama, and the raw energy of the film, but people also appreciated the technical nuances, points out Nithin. "The OTT boom has improved people's knowledge of films. They were impressed with the film's editing and cinematography. Apart from college students, those in the age group of 40, now working in the IT field, reminisced their hostel days," says Nithin.

Shashank's *Kousalya Supraja Rama,* starring Darling Krishna, Milana Nagaraj, and Brinda Acharya, explored the male ego, a less-discussed topic in Kannada cinema. For most of the film, the director dealt with the important subject in a sensitive manner.

"Kannada audiences are quite reserved. But once you bring them to the theatres, they appreciate sensible content," observes Shashank. "After watching the film, mature and honest married men accepted the presence of deep-seated patriarchy in society, while youngsters vowed not to take their mothers for granted."

Shashank drew on his years of experience to make *Kousalya Supraja Rama* a visually-engrossing movie, which was a decent package of laughs and emotionally-engaging moments. "We invested time and money on the music and the background score to enhance the drama. I believe that visual narration is always better than verbal narration. If you close your eyes and still understand a film, then it is a failure according to me," he explains.

"Pan-India is overhyped"

The success of these films debunks the pan-India theory upheld by several people in the fraternity. It shows how there need not always be a spectacle on screen for people to be convinced to come to the theatres. These results offer confidence to aspiring filmmakers who harbour a similar intent of making quality films for the local audience.

> We made a film that everyone could enjoy, and the story was the real hero.
>
> **SHASHANK SOGHAL**

"Investors in the industry are creating a messy situation and brainwashing our heroes to do only pan-Indian films. I am struggling to finish my indie movie, and I have no idea of the outcome of the film's business amongst the growing pan-India narrative in the industry," says a one-film director on the condition of anonymity.

The term 'pan-India' is overhyped, feels experienced film writer S. Shyam Prasad. "When the *Baahubali* franchise happened, filmmakers saw it as a standalone development. Only when the *KGF* franchise repeated the success of *Baahubali,* producers scrambled to announce a flurry of projects as pan-India."

"Earlier, a director had to convince a producer by talking about the benefits from the audio and satellite rights. Today, a producer is excited about a pan-India release without knowing the ground realities. The fact remains that they couldn't create another *KGF*-like result," observes Shyam.

Shyam also speaks about the perils of jumping onto the pan-India bandwagon without a plan. "Nobody asked the *KGF* makers Hombale Films about the pain of making their franchise a national or global success. Producers just saw the result, dubbed their films with ₹4 lakh to ₹5 lakh, and released them outside Karnataka ... but none of them made a mark. You need to do exceptional marketing to make people across the country watch your product. That's what Hombale did."

"And they were smart enough to release *Kantara's* dubbed versions in other states only after it created a huge buzz. That's the way to go about it," he adds.

Marketing, the biggest weapon

As they tend to stand out in a crowded market, promotion is a crucial tool for small-scale, content-oriented films. "I believe word-of-mouth is the best promotion for a movie. However, today, you have to promote a film extensively. That requires smart planning," says Shashank.

"*Kousalya Supraja Rama* was made on a budget of ₹5 crore, and I reserved 25% of the amount for marketing. I was scared as my previous film *Love 360* received rave reviews from critics, but it didn't collect as much as we expected at the box office, mainly because people weren't convinced by its pre-release buzz."

Shashank still isn't a fan of going out of the way to promote his films. Yet he had to follow the trend. "I finished my script in three months but designed the film's promotions for five months," he says with a laugh. The film team made quirky announcement videos, regularly visited theatres across the state, and even organised special shows dedicated to mothers.

Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare, again made on a budget of ₹5 crore, garnered hype thanks to interesting promotional videos featuring stalwarts such as the late Puneeth Rajkumar, music director Ajaneesh Loknath, actors Ramya and Rakshit Shetty, who went on to distribute the film. "You have to think beyond the usual ideas to stay relevant," says Nithin.

Being in a creative field, it's not difficult to plan a feasible marketing strategy based on the available budget, feels Sindhu. *Daredevil Musthafa,* a crowd-funded film, is a fine example to bolster that argument.

The makers banked on a series of off-beat ideas to reach the masses. Shashank Soghal first grabbed the attention of the fans of Tejaswi with a three-part title announcement video in the lead-up to the legendary writer's birthday. The team then offered a tribute to matinee idol Dr. Rajkumar with an animated song. "Call it madness or whatever, we worked for eight months on the song," reveals Shashank Soghal.

It was a masterstroke from the team to get the popular YouTuber Gagan Srinivas, famously known as Dr. Bro, to voice the film's trailer. The team even gave cashback offers to those who watched the film in the first week. "These were risky yet unique decisions that paid off."

In *Aachar & Co,* the protagonist Suma (Sindhu) finds a purpose in life when she becomes an entrepreneur by selling pickles. "We tied up with a pickle company and gave out *Aachar & Co*-branded pickle jars for people after the show. They were thrilled. It was like a souvenir for them," says Sindhu.

Three films (*Daredevil Musthafa, Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare, Kousalya Supraja Rama*) completed 50 days in theatres. Even as they celebrate their much-deserved success, they have also offered a lesson on how deciding on a target audience, coming up with quality script and adopting a smart marketing plan can help small-scale films to flourish on the big screen.

Ranked the eighth best bar in Asia, Argo will be hosting a couple of cocktail nights in town

Poised pour Federico Balzarini, beverage manager at Argo (far left). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Hong Kong calling

Swathi Nair
swathi.nair@thehindu.co.in

"The idea was always to have an innovative bar, so we travelled across the world to select next-generation spirits," says Four Seasons Hotel, Hong Kong beverage manager Federico Balzarini, about his bar, ranked the eighth best bar in the continent by Asia's 50 Best Bars 2023.

This quest for innovative spirits and edgy cocktails resulted in their AI-produced gin, where the computer calculates and determines the proportions of different components used to make the spirit.

"We make our gin with our distillery in Australia, customised with tea sourced from Hong Kong – this gin doesn't need vermouth to sustain itself in our martini cocktail. We rest the gin for three weeks in a chardonnay bottle, which previously had vermouth, so we get that vermouth flavour too. The gin bottle is kept in a freezer at -27 degrees Celsius," says Federico.

The gin is then used for their signature Argo Martini, with the choice of a citrus or savoury hydrosol made using seasonal ingredients, topped up with Argo's custom-made gin and served with an olive garnish. "It is up to the guest if they want a citrus or savoury flavour," he says.

Such is the passion for spirits that they also boast of using the world's first molecular whiskey in their take on the Old Fashioned.

"We use Glyph, which is a synthetic spirit made in a laboratory that mimics the profile of an aged whiskey, achieved by the right molecular composition," says Federico.

Last year, Argo secured the 28th position in the prestigious World's Best Bars of 2022 list.

"There is no surefire method to break into the top 50 or top 10 bars or whatever ranking in the world. There are only two important factors – one is the level of hospitality; at the end of the day, we are a bar, and we are here to host and entertain. And the second is innovation," says Federico.

In an upcoming event in Bengaluru, Federico will be presenting his innovative cocktails. This two-day affair at Copitas, Bengaluru's exclusive entry in Asia's 50 Best Bars 2023, will witness a collaboration with the bar's head mixologist, Sarath Nair.

The event will be held at Copitas, Four Seasons Hotel, Bengaluru, at 7 pm on September 16 and 17. Call +91 96064 87958 for reservations.

Just jazz

Italian guitarist Carlo Fierens performs in the city this weekend

Flying fingers Carlos set for his maiden venture in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bangalore School Of Music (BSM) presents an evening of jazz, featuring guitarist Carlo Fierens from Italy, who is on his India tour. This is Carlo's maiden venture in Bengaluru. The event is organised by Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Mumbai in association with BSM. The 60-minute show will feature music composed and inspired by the legendary Italian violinist Niccolò Paganini.

The guitarist will also be conducting a masterclass workshop for students on September 16 at the Bangalore School of Music.

Carlo, born in Italy, started studying guitar with his father Guillermo, an internationally celebrated guitarist. He later obtained a diploma at the Conservatory for Music in Alessandria, and a Master's degree in guitar at the Trento Conservatory. He holds the title of, Honorary Associate of The National Academy of Music.

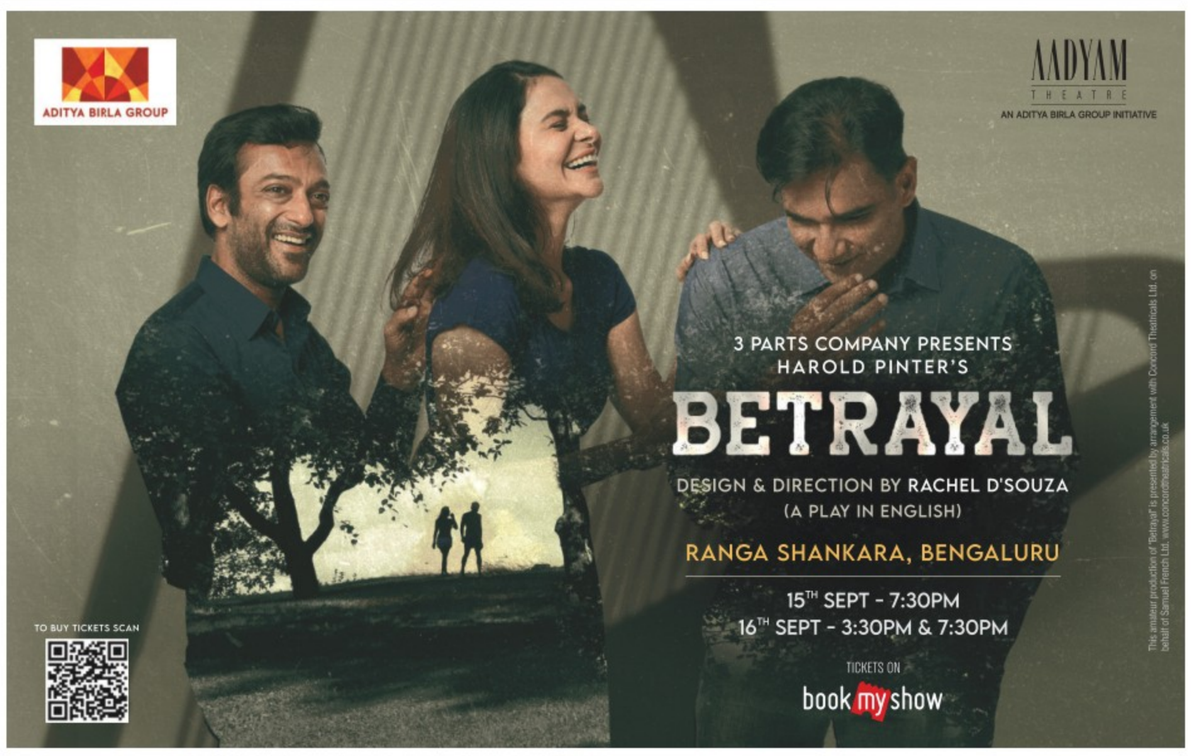
Entry on first come-first seated basis.

On September 15 at BSM. For more details visit http://www.thebsm.net/

STEPOUT

Tradition takes stage

Nrityangana Institute of Performing Arts, Bengaluru, presents Sampradaya – a festival of dance traditions. Eminent artistes such as Tina Tambe (Kathak), Leena Mohanty (Odissi), Raksha Karthik (Bharatanatyam) and Swapna Rajendrakumar (Mohiniattam) will perform. Call 9972024466. *On September 16, 6.15pm at Seva Sadan, Malleshwaram*



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Water levels in three major Cauvery basin reservoirs below 10-year average

Cumulative storage capacity in the four reservoirs in the basin is 114.57 tmcft against which the water available now is 62.69 tmcft

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

As the State government declares drought in 195 taluks and is locking horns with the lower riparian State of Tamil Nadu on release of water, the levels in the Cauvery basin reservoirs continue to plummet, raising concerns over an impending water crisis in the weeks ahead.

According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), for the week ending September 9, water levels in the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS), Hemavati, and Kabini reservoirs are less than the average of the last 10 years.

On Thursday, the water level in the KRS was 97.5 ft as against the capacity of 124.8 ft. The level was 124.6 ft on the same day last year.

The storage in the reservoir was 20.93 tmcft as against the gross capacity of 49.45 tmcft. The storage position on the same day last year was 49.2 tmcft.

The reservoir level at Krishnaraja Sagar is steadily declining, raising concerns over impending water scarcity. M.A. SRIRAM

With respect to the KRS, which is the major source for both irrigation and drinking purpose for millions of people, the water level for the week September 3 to 9 was 17.83 ft less than the average level over the last 10 years, according to the KSNDMC.

Underlining the severity of the shortage is the fact that the level was 26.1 ft lower when compared with that in the corresponding period last year, as per the KSNDMC data.

On Thursday, the water level in the Hemavati reservoir was 2,897.86 ft against the FRL of 2,922 ft. The reservoir level on the same day last year was 2,921.65 ft.

The water level was 10.78 ft lower than the 10-year average for the week ending September 9, and was less by 20.13 ft when compared with that in the corresponding period last year. The gross storage capacity of the dam is 37.1 tmcft against which the water available is 18.56 tmcft. The storage on the same day last year was 36.91 tmcft.

The level of the Kabini reservoir, which is another major source of water for drinking and irrigation, was also at a 10-year low. The KSNDMC weekly report updated till September 9 indicates that the level was 5.53 ft less than the average level of the last 10 years, and 8.39 feet less when compared to the corresponding period last year.

On September 14, the water level at Kabini was 2,276.08 ft against the FRL of 2,284 ft. Against the gross storage capacity of 19.52 tmcft, water available was 14.92 tmcft. It was 18.87 tmcft on the same day last year.

Cauvery basin reservoirs

Reservoir	Max level	Level on Sept. 14, 2023	Gross storage	Storage on Sept. 14, 2023
KRS	124.8 ft	97.5 ft	49.45 tmcft	20.93 tmcft
Hemavati	2,922 ft	2,897.86 ft	37.1 tmcft	18.56 tmcft
Kabini	2,284 ft	2,276.08 ft	19.52 tmcft	14.92 tmcft
Harangi	2,859 ft	2,858.23 ft	8.5 tmcft	8.29 tmcft

Source: KSNDMC

Better in Harangi

It was only in Harangi, a minor dam, that water level is slightly better. The gross storage capacity of the Harangi reservoir is 8.5 tmcft, and the water available is 8.29 tmcft.

The cumulative storage capacity in the four reservoirs in the Cauvery basin is 114.57 tmcft against which water available was 62.69 tmcft.

But if the dead storage of around 8 tmcft in the reservoirs is excluded, then the quantum is much less and is a pointer to an impending water crisis as the catchment areas do not benefit from the northeast monsoon, and have to wait for the onset of southwest monsoon in June next year.

State likely to await CWMA meeting outcome before deciding next step

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka is likely to await the outcome of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) meeting before taking the next course of action with respect to release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu.

It is also looking at the Centre to intervene in resolving the dispute over sharing the Cauvery waters in this distress year, as Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who holds the Water Resources portfolio, met the Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Thursday.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar handing over a letter written by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in Jaipur on Thursday.

Government sources said that the government was waiting for the authority meeting based on which a decision would be taken on whether to release water or approach the Supreme Court for relief.

"The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) that has decided that Karnataka should release water at the rate of 5,000 cusecs daily for 15 days is only a recommendatory body. Karnataka will await the authority's meeting where it will argue against the quantum. Depending on the outcome, the State is likely to approach the Supreme Court," sources said.

Meeting with legal team

Meanwhile, another source said that the meeting of the Deputy Chief Minister with the legal team in Delhi did not take place as announced by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah after the all-party meeting here on Wednesday. Sources in the Water Resources Minister's office said Mr. Shivakumar was likely to go to Delhi to discuss with the legal team later.

However, Mr. Shivakumar went directly to Jaipur to meet the Union Minister where he also handed over the letter written by Siddaramaiah.

The State has sought the Centre's intervention after the CWRC recommended the release of water at the rate of 5,000 cusecs daily for 15 days. With the depleted quantum of water in four reservoirs across the Cauvery basin in Karnataka, the Chief Minister has expressed the State's inability to release the water without endangering crops, human beings, and livestock.

Govt. officially declares 195 taluks as drought-affected

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the Cabinet panel's meeting, the Karnataka government on Thursday issued an official order declaring 195 taluks in the State as drought-hit, including nine taluks surrounding the capital city.

The State is facing a deficient rainfall of more than 25% during the current southwest monsoon.

The State government declared Bengaluru East, Anekal, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru South, and Yelahanka in Bengaluru Urban district and Devanahalli, Doddaballapur, Hoskote, and Nelamangala taluks in Bengaluru Rural district as drought-hit.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said 195 taluks in the State had been declared as drought-hit as per norms and a memorandum would be submitted to the Central government seeking relief.

The State has a total of 236 taluks in 31 districts. "As per the NDRF (National Disaster Response Fund) and the SDRF (State Disaster Response Fund) norms, 195 taluks have been declared as drought-hit, after getting a survey done and going through its report," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

He told reporters here that the State would seek drought relief from the Centre and would be submit a memorandum in this regard.

The Cabinet sub-committee on disaster management has concluded that as many as 195 taluks in the State are drought-hit.

As per the Union government's guidelines, following the survey, 161 taluks have severe drought, and 34 taluks have moderate drought. There are 40 other taluks facing rainfall deficiency, but the government is not able to declare them as drought-hit, as per guidelines.

'Curb illegal sale of liquor, smuggling'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has directed officials of the Excise Department to curb the sale of illegal liquor, avoid smuggling of illegal liquor, recover tax arrears, and achieve the set target in tax collection.

Mr. Siddaramaiah chaired a review meeting of the Excise Department and said the revenue collection target of the department for 2023-24 was ₹36,000 crore and the growth rate of tax collection was 5.31%. The Chief Minister suggested that all officers should work hard to achieve the set goals.

The enforcement agencies should keep a close watch on the illegal liquor movement in the border areas of the State, especially from Goa. The production and sale of illegal liquor adversely affected the income and health of the poor. The Chief Minister instructed that the production and sale of illegal liquor should be stopped.

CM appreciates 19.2% growth rate in collection of taxes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has directed Commercial Tax Department officers to take strict action against cases of tax evasion, tax leakage, and tax pilferage in Karnataka.

The Chief Minister chaired a review meeting of the department and appreciated the 19.2% growth rate in the collection of tax by the department, which is the highest in the country.

> Officers must explore opportunities to detect tax evasion cases by intensive enforcement to exceed the tax collection target.
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minister

He said that officers should not be satisfied by this and must explore opportunities to detect tax evasion cases by intensive enforcement to exceed the tax collection target.

Country's average

The country's average tax collection growth rate is only 15%.

The share of the State in the total tax collection of the country is 9.4%. Officials explained to the Chief Minister that the State's tax collection share was more that in the previous year.

The Chief Minister instructed the officials to outdo the given growth target of 24%.

The progress would be reviewed again after two months. He said that by the next meeting, steps should be taken to make the situation more optimistic than now. Officials of the Finance and Commercial Tax departments were present.

NIA questions Shahapur youth

The Hindu Bureau
YADGIR

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) team from Ranchi questioned a youth in Shahapur for allegedly chatting with a suspected terrorist on Instagram.

According to sources, Khalid Ahmed was questioned for about six hours. Abdul Saleem, father of Khalid, confirmed that the NIA team arrived around 4 a.m. on Thursday and questioned his son till 10 a.m.

"They took away two mobile phones which were used by Khalid and collected some documents and directed us to come to Ranchi on September 20 for inquiry," he added.

Khalid admitted to chatting with an individual (who he did not name) but said he had no knowledge about his activities. "I did not even meet him. The NIA can check my mobile phones and other documents," he added. Unconfirmed sources said the NIA team had come to the city earlier and this was its second visit.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that **my client is intending to purchase an agricultural land bearing Sy.No.29 measuring 04 Acres 39 Guntas plus 06 Guntas of adjacent kharab land situated at Kammasandra Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk,** which is more fully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter called as the Schedule Property, from the legal representatives of **K. L. Narasimhamrthy namely (1) K.N.Rajagopal, (2) K.N.Krishnamurthy (3) K.N.Narayana murthy (4) K.N.Sudharshan, (5) K.N. Lakshminarasimhaiah (6) Geetha (7) Nirmala (8) Shashikala (9) Pramila (10) Pushpa (11) K.P.Prabhavathi (12) K.P.Padmavathy (13)Narasimhamurthy and their family members.** The owner of the above said land has handed over the xerox copies of the documents in respect of the Schedule Property. Any person/s having any claim, right, title, interest in the Schedule Property may file their objections to the undersigned with documentary proof, **within 15 days** from the date of publication of this Notice and if no valid objections are received within stipulated time, my client will proceed with assumptions that, there are no objections or claims of whatsoever nature from any person/s for purchasing the schedule property from my client. Any objection received after 15 days will not be entertained and my client will proceed to purchase the land in accordance with law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy.No.29 measuring 04 Acres 39 Guntas plus 06 Guntas of adjacent kharab land situated at Kammasandra Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, and bounded on the:**East by :** Kadirenahalli border, **West by :** Property belongs to Siddappa, Keshavamurthy and Honnappa, **North by:**Road, **South by:** Property of Chikkadoddaiah.

J.S.Dinesh, Advocate
No.74, "Marthurshree", 76th Cross,
12th "E" Main Road, 6th Block, Rajajinagara,
Bengaluru-560 010, Ph: 9448020528,
Office Ph. No.080-23300528.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTH / DEATH

THE ANGEL MY SWEET HEART

16-09-1947 (TUE) — 15-09-2006 (FRI)

Smt. L.BALAM (LAKSHMI)
(W/o. K.Lakshmanan,
Retd. Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd.)

We miss you every moment
That smile, that kindness and
your unconditional love for all,
Not a single moment passes
by without thinking of you.

MAY HER SOUL CONTINUE TO REST IN PEACE
Fondly Remembered by:
Husband, Daughters, Sons-in-law & Grand Children

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client, **Mr. M.A. Manzoor Ali,** Residing at 2nd floor, M3 Benson Apartment, Benson Town, Bangalore-560 046 is intending to purchase the property described in the schedule below from Smt. G. Anuradha W/o. G. Lakshmana, as she claims that she is the absolute owner in possession of the property and the same is free from all encumbrances, charges, claims or demands of whatsoever nature. Any individuals/Institutions having objection to the said transaction may lodge their objection/s supported by cogent documents with the undersigned within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of this notice. If no objection/s is/are raised within the said period, my client would go ahead with the sale transaction in respect of the Property below mentioned deeming there is/are no objection/s to the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing No.15A formed by Bangalore Development Authority in J.P. Nagar 9th Phase, 2nd Block, Bangalore.

Measuring: East to West:09.14 Meters, North to South:12.18 Meters Totally measuring:111.32 Sq. meters

Bounded on the: East by: Private property, **West by:**Site No.15, **North by:** Road, **South by :** Private property

N M LEGAL,
Advocates & Consultants, No.117/3,Flat No.TF-304, 'FORTUNE SQUARE', S.C. Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore – 560020,Tel: 9845588499

E-mail ID: cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in; cebuildings@rediffmail.com; Tel. - (0674)-2391523

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA, NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

File No. B-I-Tourism-02/2023 Lr. No.-38535 Dt. 12th Sept., 2023

Invitation For Bids - Bid Identification No. C.E. (B) - 26 / 2023-24

1. The Chief Engineer, Buildings, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for the work,
(1) **"Development of Lord Gupteswar Temple in Boipariguda Block of Koraput District under the Scheme Integrated Development of Heritage & Monuments and Tourist Destination for the year 2023-24" amounting to Rs. 13,14,46,900/- (Approximate),**
(2) **"Renovation, Restoration & Beautification of Panchalingeshwar Temple, Oupada in Balasore District" amounting to Rs.12,84,00,000/- (Approximate)** as detailed below.

2.	Nature of work	:	Building Work
3.	No. of work	:	02 Nos.
4.	Bid Cost	:	₹.10,000/- (Each)
5.	Class of Contractor	:	'A' / Special Class
6.	Availability of Bid Documents in the website	:	From dt.16.09.2023 to 17:00 Hours of dt.30.09.2023.
7.	Date of Opening of Bids	:	Dt. 03.10.2023 at 11:30 AM
8.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/corrigendum/ cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.		

Chief Engineer, Buildings, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

B-900: OIPR-34117/11/0063/2324

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

NIT No: CMRL/PHASE–II/SYS/ASA11/2023
E-procurement Tender-Funding by Government of Tamil Nadu
International Competitive Bidding
e-TENDER No: CP25-C3&5-ASA11

CMRL invites open e-tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) as detailed below:

"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Platform Screen Doors For Corridor 3 (Madhavaram Depot to Tharamani Metro) and Corridor 5 (Kolathur Junction Metro to Villivakkam MTH Road Metro) of CMRL Phase-II".

Please refer websites **www.chennaimetrorail.org** or **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app** for further information.

DIPR/5116/Tender/2023 **Director (System & Operations)**

Governament of Karnataka
HASSAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, HASSAN
(An Autonomous Institute under the Dept of Medical Education, Government of Karnataka)
SRI CHAMARAJENDRA HOSPITAL CAMPUS, HASSAN Website: www.hims-hassan.org
Phone/Fax No.08172-231699, 231599, Email:directorhims@yahoo.com

E-Tender Notice

Sl. No.01)Tender Notification No. & Date:HIMS/SCH/TS(1) /Ch/59/2023-24 Dated: 07.09.2023 Details: E-Tender for supply of Lab Chemicals, Reagent Kits, Glassware, Disc to various Department of HIMS, Hassan. Schedule: Commencement date for uploading of tenders: 11.09.2023 Last date for uploading: 25.09.2023. Approximate Cost:135.00 lakhs EMD In Rs. 2,02,500-00 Tender details can be viewed, downloaded and applied only through the e-procurement mode only website: https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For further details contact office during working hours.

Sd/- Chief Administrative
Officer, Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/308/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಐ/316/2023–24

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project (West) Division, Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.

No.EE(P-W)/PR/181/2023-24 Date: 14-09-2023

CORRIGENDUM

Ref : Tender No: EE/PW/TEND/02/2023-24, Dt: 07.08.2023, (Through e-Procurement system).

Tender Notification Called vide Tender No.EE/PW/TEND/02/2023-24, Dt: 07-08-2023 from this office for the work of Supplying Housekeeping Staff to the Hospitals and Maternity Homes Working in Jurisdiction of West Zone, BBMP for 12 months is postponed due to technical reasons.

Changes in Calendar of Events are as follows: (1) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **30-10-2023 upto 4:00 p.m. (2)** Opening of Technical Bid: **02-11-2023 at 4:30 p.m. (3)** Opening of Financial Bid: **04-11-2023 at 4:30 p.m.** (if possible). Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** All other terms and conditions remain unchanged to the Original Tender Notification.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project (West) Division, BBMP.

Why deep pocketed investors shy away from deep tech start-ups

While investments in deep tech start-ups have gone up in the last five years, the pace has been slow unlike in the case of other sectors such as consumer Internet or SaaS start-ups

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Mansoor Rahimat Khan, co-founder of Bengaluru-based generative AI start-up Beatoven.ai, is currently in San Fransisco trying to raise a series A round of funds for his company. He flew to the Bay Area after finding no luck with the early-stage investors in India.

"I tried to raise my series A round in India and spoke to almost every fund in India. But the feedback from everybody was that this looks like a hype cycle," says Mr. Khan.

He is not alone. Despite being the buzzword lately within the start-up ecosystem, founders of several deep-tech start-ups imply that early-stage generalist venture capital (VC) funds in India have been reluctant to invest in deep-tech. While the investments have gone up in the last five years, the pace has been slow unlike in the case of consumer internet or SaaS start-ups.

Several founders *The Hindu* spoke to point to general risk averseness and a lack of investors from science or research backgrounds in the VC community as some of the reasons. These, combined with a non-availability of patient capital, often leave deep tech startups gasping for breath.

Risky business

Mr. Khan and his team started building the company in 2021 and managed to raise some early seed funds sufficient to keep things going for a while.

"Nobody back then even knew about generative AI. It was difficult to explain it to generalist investors who would invest in typical consumer internet or enterprise SaaS," he says.

"In the early stage of deep tech, there's nothing really you can show. You have to put in money to build it," he adds.

To be fair, for private investors profits matter prompting them to look for commercial traction. Also, certain subsectors within the larger deep tech ambit generate more interest than the others; For example, the space-tech currently.

But in general, deep tech start-up investments are seen as a huge risk.

For one they have long gestation periods, unlike other start-ups. Built from scratch, technology is the differentiator and hence, the moat. The numbers game in terms of revenues and customers follows later. But for the investors that means longer wait times for returns and uncertainty in terms of whether the tech would be able to deliver at all.

No quality feedback

While founders agree that investing in deep tech is a risky proposition, they note that there is very little quality feedbackfrom the investors.

"Even if you are able to show commercial traction, they want to wait and watch. But if you are going to do that, the opportunity will pass. A start-up in the West that may raise 20 or 30 times what we have raised and quickly gets an advantage over what we worked on for years." says Mr. Khan. Beatoven.ai crossed half a million users within six months of launch.

According to him factors like a smaller acquisition market in India making the exit prospects bleak for investors and earlier experiences of burning fingers by investing in hoax markets have made investors much more risk averse.

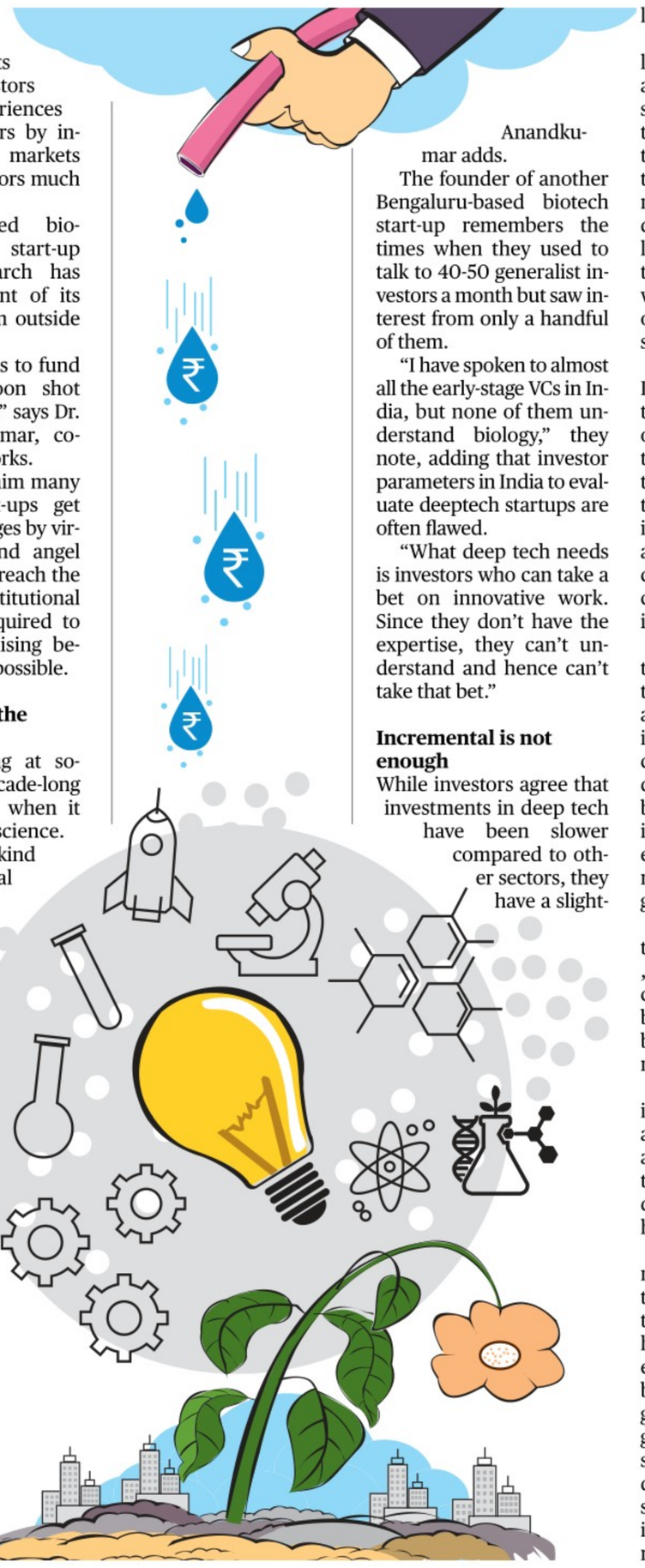
Bengaluru-based biopharmaceutical start-up Bugworks Research has raised 90 percent of its funds so far from outside India.

"Nobody wants to fund a 10-15-year moon shot journey like ours," says Dr. Anand Anandkumar, co-founder at Bugworks.

According to him many deep tech start-ups get through early stages by virtue of grants and angel funding. As they reach the stage where institutional investors are required to step in, fund raising becomes next to impossible.

Understanding the science

"You are looking at something like a decade-long gestation period when it comes to deep science. Nobody has that kind of patient capital available in India. Another reason is that they don't have subject matter experts in their investment team, which would have helped with risk amortization," Dr. Anandkumar adds.



The founder of another Bengaluru-based biotech start-up remembers the times when they used to talk to 40-50 generalist investors a month but saw interest from only a handful of them.

"I have spoken to almost all the early-stage VCs in India, but none of them understand biology," they note, adding that investor parameters in India to evaluate deeptech startups are often flawed.

"What deep tech needs is investors who can take a bet on innovative work. Since they don't have the expertise, they can't understand and hence can't take that bet."

Incremental is not enough

While investors agree that investments in deep tech have been slower compared to other sectors, they have a slightly different story to tell.

Given the high risk and longer gestation periods associated with deep tech start-ups, much higher returns are expected from them than the usual industry standards. However, as much as deep tech founders excel in developing life-changing technologies, the same cannot be said when it comes to figuring out a business model, says several investors.

Pranav Koshal, fellow at Kalaari Capital, points out that deep tech start-ups are often market creators, and the investor therefore has to spend a lot of time with the founders understanding the core technology and its potential, the future course, the market that could be created, and the impact it can have.

"If you are undertaking that journey, the end of that journey needs to have a much higher impact than incremental shifts from the current industry standards. If it's just marginally better than what is in the industry today the entire effort you put in will not be rewarded to the same degree," he says.

Arpit Agarwal, a director at Blume Ventures, notes that a deep tech company has to win not because it is deep tech, but because it is a better investment opportunity.

"If deep tech is not going to get me better than average returns which are available in other sectors at that point of time, then deep tech will not qualify," he says.

"In some cases, I'll force myself and make exceptions which is how deep tech investments in India have happened from generalist funds so far. It is not because companies are not good, or technology is not great, or we can't understand the science, or founders are not great. Our assessment is that deep tech is not delivering the same returns as some of the other sectors as of now."

3one4 Capital is one of the investors at Bugworks Research. Anurag Ramadasan, partner at 3one4 is a big believer in the defensibility of deep tech start-ups.

High defensibility

"We truly think deep tech brings in a lot more defensibility than a typical SaaS product which is arguably easier to copy," he says.

"The challenge is that in the universe of businesses, a SaaS product is very well understood and the path to building a business out of a SaaS product is relatively easier. Which means there is a lower risk in backing a SaaS company. Whereas in deep tech startups while the defensibility is higher, the execution challenges are also high."

According to him, yet another challenge is that the deep tech entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country is in an early stage.

"Very often entrepreneurs are researchers who come up with a specific technology but haven't put enough thought into what the business journey will look like. This is where even for VCs the barrier to investing in deep tech companies is higher. People think VCs struggle in evaluating a deep tech business. Deep tech is hard to evaluate, but it is doable. How do we take this technology to the market and build a business out of it, that is where the larger complexity lies," he says.

Losing out?

The reasons may differ, but there seems to be consensus across the startup spectrum that deep tech startups are seeing relatively lesser funding. But what does that eventually mean for the Indian startup ecosystem?

Founders feel it will force them to shift base to foreign countries.

"Increasingly companies will start changing their headquarters in the hope of connecting to capital in those countries," says Dr. Anandkumar of Bugworks. "Imagine a company from an Indian town doing amazing work that is important for our country. When these companies list abroad, all their IPs move there. Then suddenly your national asset is not yours anymore."

Matter of time

Investors, however, think it's only a matter of time before the ecosystem matures and funds start flowing in faster. Mr. Agarwal of Blume Ventures notes that larger funds are now looking at deep tech.

"Higher margins require stronger technology understanding, technology depth, or technology differentiation. So, if we have to achieve the end goal of higher margins deep tech is a must. Therefore, a trickle of money is now flowing into deep tech ventures. There is an understanding that one has to look at deeper tech and that you can't just get away by investing into business re-engineering," he says.

While researchers becoming part of the VC community has not become a trend yet, Mr. Agarwal feels that over the course of time, as tech becomes deep enough, generalist funds will start hiring PhD scholars. Mr. Koshal of Kalaari Capital notes that they regularly consult the academia when it comes to investing in deep tech startups.

"I think the trend is positive," says Mr. Ramadasan of 3one4.

"No one is doing as many deep tech deals as they do SaaS deals. But over the last few years deep tech investments have grown. Do I like for it to be faster? Yes. But we are seeing more maturity in the deep tech start-up ecosystem. It's a steep learning curve."

Investment trends

Year	Total funding in USD	Number of total rounds
2018	222.2 million	265
2019	521.3 million	285
2020	571.6 million	290
2021	1.2 billion	341
2022	2.4 billion	266
2023	509.7 million	76

Source: Tracxn

Mumbai-based Aadyam Theatre makes its debut with Harold Pinter's 'Betrayal'

The play, originally set in London and Venice, has been adapted to mirror the emotions of the citizens of Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru

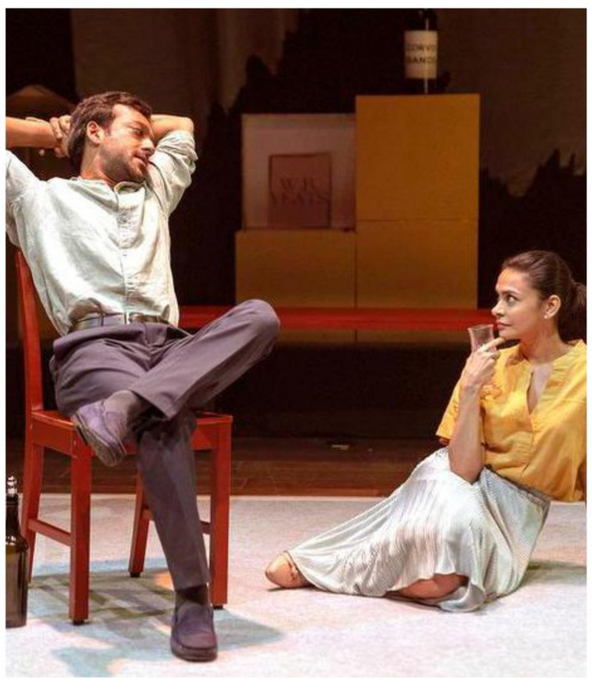
Ruth Dhanaraj
BENGALURU

British playwright Harold Pinter was known for portraying the human psyche through his work and *Betrayal* which he brought out in 1978 is considered one of his more acclaimed works.

As its name suggests, the play originally set in London and Venice, has been adapted to mirror the emotions, affections, and self absorption of the citizens of Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru – cities where Aadyam Theatre has, and will stage, *Betrayal*.

The play is directed by Rachel D'Souza who says *Betraya*l fell into her lap. "Post the pandemic, we were only reading a lot of scripts as theatres hadn't begun functioning entirely. Sukant Goel brought *Betrayal* to my notice at a reading."

"I had developed an interest in stories that are intimate, about relationships and what happens behind closed doors, and *Betrayal* fell into that space. At the same time, there was an element of humour in Pinter's writing which I thoroughly enjoyed."



Scenes from *Betrayal* by Aadyam Theatre.

Rachel says the fact that it was a three-people cast seemed the right number of people to work on a play post the pandemic.

The cast for *Betrayal* includes Abir Abrar, Sukant Goel, and Vivek Gomber. "A very important part of this play for me was live music and from the moment it was conceptualised, I wanted to have someone play in real time, just like the actors. We collaborated for the first time with an indie musician, Nush Lewis based out of Bangalore and Chennai. It was also a chance to collaborate with names from the independent music scene who usually perform only at festivals," says Rachel.

"We worked on music for about three months, trying to develop the soundscape for the play. The result is an electronic piece mixed live during the show, apart from Nush's own performance." Rachel says the entire endeavour was in tandem with Aadyam's decision to perform in Bengaluru for the first time, apart from the venue, "with Rangashankara being very close to my heart."

Presented by Aadyam Theatre and produced by 3 Parts Company, Betrayal will be staged in Bengaluru at Ranga Shankara, September 15 and 16. Tickets on bookmyshow.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 15, 1973

Urs' Appeal to People

Bangalore, Sept. 14: The Chief Minister, Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, in an appeal issued here to-day requested responsible sections of the Community to render all support to the authorities in the restoration of law and order in the State.

The Chief Minister said it was most unfortunate that there had been recrudescence of violence in some parts of the State. Anti Social elements were taking advantage of an agitation ostensibly led by students to indulge in looting arson and senseless destruction of public and private property innocent lives had been lost.

No right-thinking person, Mr. Urs said, could countenance such activities which only hindered the efforts of the Government to meet.

Mysore Govt. alerts Army as Violence Spreads

Bangalore, Sept. 14: The Army and the CRP have been alerted by the Mysore Government as more areas in the State reported outbursts of violence on the second day to-day. Additional reinforcements have been sought from Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry.

A teenaged boy was killed and three others were seriously injured in police firing. The police opened fire to-day in four places. Sira (Tumkur Dt), Maddur (Mandya District), Doddaballapur (Bangalore District) and Kunigal (Tumkur District) to quell unruly mobs, following fresh incidents of arson, looting and rioting.

Mandya, the sugar town which witnessed violent incidents yesterday, was peaceful barring stray incidents.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

NUGGETS OF HISTORY

Ragi's origin story from Africa

Ragi, or finger millet, derives from Uganda in East Africa. According to food historian K.T. Achaya, the cultivated ragi species that came to India was Eleusine coracana. In about 1800 BC, both wild and cultivated variety of grain were found in Hallur on the banks of Tungabhandra. Many other food plants of India, like jowar, bajra and lobia, also have their origins in parts of Africa.

Not a policeman, but much more

Srinivasmurthy S.R. of T. Narsipur was keen to join the police and appeared for the selection process. But was rejected as his height was below the prescribed norms. The police department's loss was agriculture's gain due to his immense contribution to paddy conservation. Srinivasmurthy was conferred the Plant Genome Saviour award in 2019.

He has curated 1,350 paddy varieties

Syed Ghani Khan of Kirugavalu studied archaeology and museology and was keen to be a museum curator but fate willed otherwise. However, the museologist in him kindled his desire to showcase his collection of nearly 1,350 paddy varieties and he established a paddy museum in his house which draws like-minded farmers from distant places.

A rice variety to remember parents

Bore Gowda of Shivalli in Mandya is known as Bhattada Bore Gowda or 'Paddy' Bore Gowda given his popularity as a paddy conservationist. He bred a new variety of rice 'Siddasanna' through a selection method and named it after his father Siddegowda and mother Sannamma and the variety is a best seller among desi paddy.

Tubers and roots are back on the table

Tubers and roots as a food has long disappeared our plates. But Sahaja Samruddha which is working with farmers on conservation is reviving it and the tuber and roots mela which are held regularly in Mysuru, is a great draw. The initiative has resulted in formation of more than 20 farmers collectives that are into roots and tuber production along with other crops.

These farmers in Karnataka are democratising seed production

At a time when multinational companies have patented technologies and monopolised the market with hybrid seeds, a section of farmers has broken free of their clutches by producing heirloom seeds and propagating them among fellow cultivators

Keshav with a little pear tomato on his farm at Yelwal, near Mysuru.

Paddy seed producer Srinivasmurthy S.R. on his farm at Siddanahundi in T. Narsipur.

Lokesh of Kollegal has taken to seed production with Red Maize.

Syed Ghani Khan has a collection of nearly 1,350 varieties of paddy.

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

On an acre of plot at Siddanahundi in T. Narsipur taluk of Mysuru district, Srinivasmurthy S.R. is busy preparing the land and nursery for paddy seed production. The demand for Jeerige Sanna variety and a few other desi, or indigenous varieties, has soared. Srinivasmurthy has to boost production to meet the growing demand for paddy seeds.

In the neighbouring district of Mandya, Syed Ghani Khan has cultivated 1,350 varieties of paddy on his plot in Kirugavalu in Malavalli taluk to cater to demand from local farmers for indigenous paddy varieties. Apart from meeting the requirements of farmers, Ghani Khan also has to ensure supplies to a seed producing company. He has reserved five acres exclusively for paddy seed cultivation.

Silent shift towards indigenous varieties

These are just two instances of farmers switching to seed production of indigenous crop varieties, be it paddy, vegetables, millets, or pulses. Such efforts from farmers have gained traction in recent years in what could be billed as a silent revolution in the making.

At a time when multinational companies with deep pockets have patented technologies and monopolise the market with hybrid seeds of various crops, a section of farmers has broken free from the clutches of the market, and are ploughing a lonely furrow by producing heirloom seeds and propagating them among fellow cultivators.

These are not one-off or isolated initiatives. The number of farmers and farmer seed producers' collectives is on the rise in the Mysuru-Mandya-Chamarajanagar belt, as also the rest of Karnataka.

Lower production cost

In most cases, such endeavours began as an effort to minimise the cost of agricultural production, and were supported by NGOs. But along the way, farmers were consumed by the fire of conserving crop diversity around them, which was disappearing under the onslaught of hybrid monoculture.

"Paddy varieties that were cultivated locally, which we grew up consuming, were increasingly difficult to come by, and were on the verge of extinction due to the onslaught of the hybrid seeds," says Srinivasmurthy.

The need to reduce agricultural cost was also coupled with the imperatives of developing seeds that could resist moisture stress and survive in local climatic conditions. And the experiments - encouraged and promoted by like-minded individuals and NGOs - that began on small swathes of agricultural plots, seem to have made positive gains over the years.

"Apart from promoting indigenous crop varieties, the farmers are also conserving seed diversity. From food cultivators, farmers are forming collectives that are emerging as repositories of seed varieties," said Manju of Sahaja Samruddha, which started as a people's movement for sharing knowledge and exchange of seeds to safeguard crop or agrobiodiversity.

The tribe is growing

From a handful of farmers at inception 23 years ago, the organisation now has a network of over 700 farmers who insist on using heirloom seeds, and eschew the hybrid varieties.

"But, out of them, about 60 farmers are seed producers who help in propagating the indigenous crops and encourage building a community seed bank," according to G. Krishnaprasad, one of the founders of Sahaja Samruddha, which supports farmers' groups and provides market linkages.

The enthusiasm of the new generation of farmers in conservation of indigenous crop varieties and seeds has spanned a cottage industry in seed production with the emergence of different farmer groups.

From cultivating paddy to producing paddy and vegetable seeds that are patent-free, farmers' efforts are also backed by a growing demand in urban areas for organic agricultural produce.

Hulikadu is one such collective of seed producers based in H.D. Kote in Mysuru district. All organic vegetable cultivators in the region were brought under one roof and were registered as Hulikadu Farmers' Producers' Company. Efforts are on to supply vegetables to major organic retailers in and around Mysuru.

"The whole purpose of the movement is to propagate *desi* varieties of crops and distribute seeds to farmers. These seeds are patent-free. Unlike companies, which put profit over communities, we insist that farmers save some seeds and distribute them to other seed producers, and propagate their use," said Srinivasmurthy who has a collection of 250 varieties of paddy in his farm.

New variety of rice, venturing into vegetable seeds

The journey of Bore Gowda of Shivahalli in Mandya to the world of seed conservation and production began more than 15 years ago. He, in fact, ended up breeding a new variety of paddy, which he named Siddasanna - after his father Sidde Gowda and mother Sannamma. Siddasanna is today cultivated by over 2,000 farmers.

Not all farmers are into paddy or millet seed production. A few have ventured into producing vegetable seeds as well.

Lokesh of Kollegal took up production of tomato seeds. His confidence of an assured price for seeds got a boost when he reaped a profit despite tomato prices crashing in the market recently. He has embarked on production of other exotic crops, including red maize. His venture inspired five other small farmers to take to seed production.

Keshav of Mysuru has a plot of land at Yelwal on the outskirts of the city where he has taken up producing seeds of rare varieties of tomatoes, including the black variety, apart from 20 types of chillies. Kalappa of Periyapatana cultivates and produces seeds of nearly 100 varieties of crops and vegetables, and has market linkages through Sahaja Samruddha.

Seed cultivation is less vulnerable to price fluctuation in the market

For farmers who suffer crop loss due to vagaries of nature or don't get assured returns due to fluctuations in the market price, seed production is something of an anchor that helps them tide through difficult times.

But seed production long ceased to be in the farmers' domain as companies took over production, patented the technology, and flooded the market with hybrid varieties, forcing farmers to opt for them, adding to the cost of agriculture production.

However, the steady decline in agricultural income and rise in cost of cultivation has forced a section of farmers to revert to seed production, and they are now reaping a dividend.

"But seed production is not everybody's cup of tea," explains Krishnaprasad. It is akin to "higher studies".

"Seed production requires lot of patience. It is labour-intensive, and the gestation period is longer. Not notwithstanding the downside, many farmers are opting for the seed production route to eke out a slice of the profit which otherwise goes to MNCs or private companies," he added.

The growing awareness among farmers to retrieve 'seed sovereignty', and the demand for organically cultivated and chemical-free food are other factors that have given a boost to setting up of more farmers' producers' company, Krishnaprasad said.

Among the seed producers linked with Sahaja Samruddha, farmers not only produce different varieties of rice and millets, but also pulses. They boost production depending on the demand.

The emerging trend found an echo in the final resolution passed during the 5th Kisan Swaraj Sammelan held in Mysuru in November 2022. The sammelan recognised the systemic failures in the agriculture sector, the erosion of farmers' self-sufficiency, and called for restoration of farmers' legal rights over seeds.

But for the movement to sustain, it requires consumers to shift to organic and indigenous varieties of crops, so as to fuel greater demand for them and help revive agricultural diversity through changes in their purchase behaviour.

Greater awareness among consumers

That there is a perceptible change in consumer behaviour towards all things organic is evident in the response to a slew of tuber melas, jack fruit melas, and millet melas that take place in Mysuru and other cities frequently.

A part of it is also fuelled by the growing awareness on the early onset of lifestyle diseases, like diabetes, abetted by lack of physical activity, to neutralise which a change in dietary habit is gaining ground.

So, a small initiative at the grassroots by farmers' collectives is not only democratising seed production and conserving the genetic wealth, but is also adding diversity to the food and dietary pattern, and stimulating demand for food like millets that are making a comeback.

Heirloom varieties on display at a paddy mela. Such events are held frequently in Mysuru district to promote conservation of indigenous varieties.

INBRIEF

Annamayya clash: Naidu's bail plea adjourned to Sept. 20

The Andhra Pradesh High Court adjourned former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's anticipatory bail petition in the case related to the clashes that had taken place during his tour of the Annamayya district, to September 20. Passing the order on Thursday, Justice K. Suresh Reddy instructed the police to come with further details of the incident on the given date.

23 companies in race for SSLV technology transfer from ISRO

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will facilitate transfer of technology (ToT) for the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to one private company. Chairman Pawan Goenka of Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre, the nodal agency for boosting the space economy, informed in Bengaluru on Thursday that 23 companies had applied for the ToT, but will be able to give it to only one company. Identifying the prospective bidders will take place on October 30.

Tollywood director, Nigerian nationals in drug bust net

Chasing the lead from an earlier drug bust in a service apartment at Madhapur in Hyderabad, the Telangana State Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TSNAB) has reportedly nabbed three Nigerian nationals from Bengaluru and a Tollywood film director among others. Officials seized 50 gm of MDMA, 24 ecstasy pills and eight gm of cocaine from the accused. Commissioner of Hyderabad City Police said that big names from the Telugu film industry had come up and that the officials were gathering evidence to make further arrests.

Central team of officials to visit Nipah-hit areas today

National Institute of Virology, Pune, has set up a mobile testing lab with biosafety level-III standards; five people have tested positive for the virus of which two have died in Kozhikode

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

A Central team of officials is expected to visit Maruthonkara and Ayancheri areas in Kozhikode district of Kerala on Friday where two persons died due to Nipah infection recently.

Five people have so far tested positive for the virus, of whom two are dead. Others are undergoing treatment. Restrictions are continuing in at least nine grama panchayats in Kozhikode district, where a holiday has been declared for educational institutions till Saturday.

Kozhikode police have put barriers in Ayanchery grama panchayat, which has been declared a containment zone. THULASI KAKKAT

The Central team reached Kozhikode on Thursday morning and held parleys with State officials.

According to sources, they will coordinate with the State departments of Health and Animal Husbandry in taking up containment measures.

The team has members drawn from the National Centre for Disease Control, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bengaluru.

The National Institute of Virology, Pune, has set up a mobile testing lab at Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode, to test body fluid samples of suspected Nipah patients.

Official sources said that the lab has biosafety level-III standards.

Police should be cautions while invoking criminal intimidation charge: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The investigating officers should exercise caution while invoking offences of criminal intimidation and intentional insult with an intent to provoke the breach of public peace under the Indian Penal Code on complaints arising out of trivial instances of squabbles, said the High Court of Karnataka.

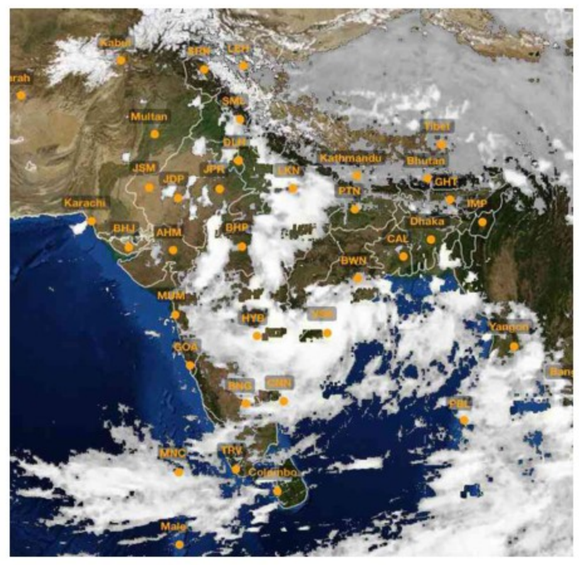
"Section 504 (intentional insult with an intent to provoke breach of public peace) and Section 503 and 506 (criminal intimidation and punishment for it) are the offences which are punishable with two years imprisonment. Therefore, it cannot be a frolicsome act, on the part of the investigating officers to simply bring in Sections 504 or 506 in a case where it does not have a speck of ingredients for such offences," the court said.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while quashing a criminal case registered under Sections 504, 503, and 506 against a man based on his wife's complaint that she was also subject to cruelty as per Section 498A of the IPC.

The court found that the complaint was lodged in 2016 by the wife after the husband refused to give her money for performing a puja resulting in a squabble between the couple, and her in-laws. Observing that "fortunately the police had not filed a chargesheet against the in-laws", the court asked how the police had invoked Section 504 cannot be imagined in the present case of a squabble between the couple. "From where ingredients of Section 503 can spring is a mystery...," the court observed while pointing out that the criminal proceedings against the petitioner-husband were sought to be conducted on 'glorified trivialities' between the husband and the wife. "If criminal proceedings on such trivialities are permitted to continue, it would be putting a premium on such allegations made in every case," the court observed while quashing the criminal proceedings against the husband.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over east Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, west Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.2	33.8	25.6	Kozhikode	10	31.6	24.9
Ahmedabad	—	33.8	26.8	Kurnool	—	33.5	25.2
Aizawl	3	32.0	22.1	Lucknow	—	35.4	27.9
Allahabad	—	35.0	27.6	Madurai	—	39.2	25.5
Bengaluru	18.7	27.7	20.0	Mangaluru	5.8	28.5	23.6
Bhopal	2	—	22.9	Mumbai	13	31.7	25.0
Bhubaneswar	2.4	29.0	25.0	Mysuru	8	32.5	23.3
Chandigarh	—	35.5	27.8	New Delhi	—	37.6	27.8
Chennai	—	35.1	25.6	Patna	—	35.0	28.0
Coimbatore	—	32.4	23.2	Port Blair	33	27.1	23.6
Dehradun	27	31.2	24.8	Puducherry	—	36.0	26.8
Gangtok	22	23.0	18.9	Pune	—	30.8	21.2
Goa	0.8	31.5	24.0	Raipur	103.2	30.0	23.5
Guwahati	—	37.2	26.0	Ranchi	8	27.4	23.1
Hubballi	—	29.0	22.0	Shillong	—	24.1	17.8
Hyderabad	—	30.6	23.7	Shimla	—	26.4	20.9
Imphal	0.2	29.3	20.9	Srinagar	—	33.7	19.6
Jaipur	—	36.6	27.1	Thiruvananthapuram	37	32.1	23.8
Kochi	10	30.2	24.7	Tiruchi	0.4	35.7	26.6
Kohima	8	24.3	17.4	Vijayawada	—	32.2	26.4
Kolkata	6	28.5	26.7	Visakhapatnam	0.6	31.9	25.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	51	51	51	93	
Bengaluru	6	27	68	62	85	
Chennai	4	84	89	—	56	
Delhi	—	9	172	163	95	
Hyderabad	7	39	17	52	119	
Kolkata	43	23	22	11	15	
Lucknow	—	26	9	162	95	
Mumbai	42	39	52	124	122	
Pune	125	199	110	39	34	
Visakhapatnam	9	38	31	56	87	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sonipat, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 203 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 20

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांकः 2845 दिनांकः 12.09.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्याः 35 वर्ष 2023-2024
NIB No. PWD2324A2991
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सड़क निर्माण कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ईटेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है। 1. PWD2324WLOB13115
(देवीलाल आर्य) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,
DIPR/C/13569/2023 सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the notice of the general public that my client **Mr. Andrew Monteiro** Residing at No.15 (old no.18) PID No.76-35-15, Serpentine Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore 560 025, has lost the original Power of Attorney executed by the erstwhile owner Mrs.Beatrice McGowen in favour of her attorney Mr.W.J.Chalke and Mr. J.B. Dias on 14th of October 1986 empowering them to sell the schedule mentioned property to my client Mr. Andrew Monteiro and his mother Mrs. Annette Monteiro by virtue of which the schedule property was sold to my client and his mother by way of sale deed no.2460/1987-88,Book-I, Volume no.2492, pages no 166-176 executed on 19-11-1987, before the sub-registrar Shivajinagar, Bangalore.
In this regard a police complaint has also been registered at Ashok Nagar Police station, anybody finding the documents or having possession of the said documents may hand it over to my client.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing Municipal No.15 (Old No.18) earlier No.6/1, PID No.76-35-15, measuring East 61 Feet, West -64 Feet, North- 40 Feet and South- 21 Feet in all admeasuring 1906.25 Sq. feet together with old building at ground floor measuring 10 Squares (1000 Sqft) situated at Serpentine Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore. **Bounded As Follows:-**
East by: Premises bearing No.14, Serpentine Street, **West by:** Rose Lane, **North by:** Serpentine Street, **South by:** Premises No.7, Rose Lane.
J. RAVINDRAN Advocate
No.310, 4th Cross, 6th Main, Viveknagar, Bangalore-569947. Mobile: 9900609429
E-mail: ravindran_jurist@yahoo.co.in

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Notice to the Respondent No.8
Vide order dated: 07.09.2023
R.F.A.No.496/2017
Sri Syed Naveed Ahmed @ Annu ... APPELLANT
(By Sriyuths: Shamanth Naik & Aloke Madappa advs. for appellant)
-V/s-
Smt. Naseema & Others ... RESPONDENTS
To, **RESPONDENTS: 8. Sri S.A. Usman,** S/o Late S.A. Shukoor, No. 10/1, II Floor, Khazi Street, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560 004.
Appeal from the Judgment & Decree dated: 15.12.2016 passed in OS.No.5707/2012 on the file of the III Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge, Bengaluru.
Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court either in person or through Counsel duly instructed or through some one authorized by law, to act for you in the above appeal on **30.10.2023** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.
Issued under my hand and the seal of this court, this the 12/09/2023
By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES BENGALURU
Estate Office, GKVK, Bengaluru-560 065.
No. EO/SPO/e-Proc/140/2023-24 Date: 12-09-2023
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)
The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per the Standard tender document KG-1 & KG-2, from the reputed firms for the procurement of the following equipments. Si No. 1 to 11. The details of the KG-1 & KG-2 Tender Notification, Schedule, Specifications are available in the website **kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The cost of the Tender document is as per e-procurement portal NORMS. The EMD shall be paid using e-procurement payment modes.
Blank Tender Documents can be down loaded from **kppp.karnataka.gov.in, Last date and time for uploading the tender on 26-09-2023 up to 4.00 p.m. The Technical bid will be opened on 29-09-2023 at 10.30 a.m. The Financial bid will be opened on 06-10-2023 at 10.30 a.m.** in the Tender Committee room of Estate Office. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours and also refer UAS Website: **www.uasbangalore.edu.in. Help Desk 91-8046010000, +91-8068948777, support@eprochelpdesk.com.** The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. Tender will be under two cover system and the conditions for two cover systems is also uploaded in the website.
Sd/-
ESTATE OFFICER
DIPR/CP/RO1286/AAPL/2023-24

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
9th and 10th Floor, Vishweshwaraiah Mini Towers, Dr. B.R. Abmedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560 001.
Ph: 080-22868870, 22867097, 22865192
No. ADCL/HR/OUTSOURCE/TENDER/2023-24 Date: 11.09.2023
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Invitation of Bids for providing Manpower Services
(Through e-procurement portal)
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation Limited, a wholly owned Company of Government of Karnataka, invites competitive Bids through e-procurement portal for providing Manpower Services.
In this context competitive Bids through e-procurement portal are invited from eligible bidders satisfying eligibility criteria mentioned in Bid document.
The interested Bidders may access BID document from the e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 12.09.2023 to till 11.10.2023.**
For the terms and conditions, Bidders may refer the above BID (Request for Bid) documents. Please note henceforth all Tender Notifications, Bid Document and any further changes will be published only on e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- General Manager (P&A), Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd., Bengaluru

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR.
Ref: EE/PWD/VJP/TA/AE/Quotations/Airport/2023-24/02520
Dated:13.09.2023
NOTICE INVITING QUOTATIONS FOR RATES OF THE ITEMS DETAILED AS PER ANNEXURE-1 & 2
Sub: Preparation of Estimates for Development of Greenfield Airport at Vijayapur in Karnataka State.
Sealed Quotations are invited from the reputed Company / Firms Agencies for preparation of Estimates for Development of Greenfield Airport at Vijayapur in Karnataka State. Schedule can be obtained from this Office during working Hours 10.00 am to 5.30 pm (Contact Numbers 9481563200, 9900106481, 9742944373, 9972369677 & Email Id-eepwdbjp062@rediffmail.com and eevijayapur2017@gmail.com). Terms and conditions are as below mentioned.
1. The rates should be inclusive of all services and applicable taxes.
2. The rates should be quoted for the quality items and in case if any change in item this should be clearly stated in quotations.
3. The rates should be Valid for the period of at least 90 days from the date of quotations submitted to the department. The bidders are bound to these rates when orders are placed after approval of quotations rates within the validity period of quotation rates.
4. Sealed quotations should be reach this office on or before 30-09-2023 @5.00 or handed over personally in this office. Delay in postal transit will not be considered.
5. Materials should be as per standard specification and quality tested and certificates for quality assurance should be obtained from concern department on their own cost of the bidder.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department Division, Vijayapur
DIPR/VIJAYAPURA/147/KSMCA/2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)
No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2023-24/3271 Date: 11.09.2023
- ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT):-
The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered in E-procurement portal in Public Works Department under KW- 1, 2, 3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a total of 45 works under 3054- SH Road & Bridge Maintenance , 3054- MDR Bridge Maintenance , 8443 Deposit Works, 4059-Buildings, 2216-Quarters Building Maintenance and 2059-Dept Building Maintenance Works & 2059-Belgaum Suvarna Soudha Building Maintenance Works with maximum & minimum tender amounts of Rs. 249.28 Lakhs & Rs. 0.21 Lakhs respectively and. maximum & minimum EMD amounts of Rs. 374000/- & 1000/- respectively. Part-1 Tender receipt Date is on 20-09-2023 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Opening Date is on 21-09-2023 after 4.45 PM , Part-2 Tender receipt Date is on 29-09-2023 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Opening Date is on 30-09-2023 after 4.45 PM , Part-3 Tender receipt Date is on 20-09-2023 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Opening Date is on 21-09-2023 after 4.45 PM , Part-4 and Part-5: Tender receipt Date is on 05.10.2023 upto 4.30 PM and Technical Bid Opening Date is on 06.10.2023 after 4.45 PM, & Part-6: Auction receipt Date is on 20.09.2023 at 11.00 AM (for Auction work Participants should deposit Rs.1000/- towards EMD in the name of Assistant Executive Engineer, PWD, Sub Division, Suvarna Soudha), For more information contact the office of the undersigned and www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in after 11.09.2023(If no bids received, 3 days One time auto extension activated)
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Belagavi Dn. Belagavi.
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-396/KSMCA/2023-24

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (Transport), Ground Floor, Annex-5 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002
No: EE(Transport)/TEND/01/2023-24 Date: 14.09.2023
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through **GOK KPP-Procurement Portal** only)
The Executive Engineer (Transport), Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) invites Proposals (Technical and Financial) for appointing eligible reputed service Providers for the Services as given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Projects	Amount Put to Tender (in ₹)	EMD (in ₹)
1.	Providing Services of Private Drivers to BBMP Vehicles (Ambulance Vehicles)	43,65,123/-	87,500/-
2.	Providing Services of Private Drivers to BBMP Vehicles (LMV Vehicles)	93,20,829/-	1,86,500/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Availability of IFT/RFP Document in KPP Portal: **15.09.2023** onwards. (2) Last date for Submission of Proposals: **21.09.2023** upto **5:30** pm. (3) Date of Opening of Technical Proposals: **22.09.2023** after **5:30** pm. (4) After approval of Technical bid Financial Proposal will be opened. (5) This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: **www.bbmp.gov.in**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Transport)

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project (West) Division, Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020.
No: EE/(P-W)/PR/180/2023-24 Date: 14.09.2023
CORRIGENDUM
REF: Tender No: EE/PW/TEND/04/2023-24 Call-2, Dated: 04.09.2023 (through e-procurement system)
Tender Notification called vide Tender No. EE/PW/TEND/04/2023-24/Call-2, Dated: 04.09.2023, BBMP for the work of Providing Cleaning Staff to BBMP Schools and Colleges of West Zone on Outsourced Basis is postponed due to Technical Reasons.
Changes in Calendar of Events are as follows:

Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders:	on 30.10.2023 upto 4:00 pm
Opening of Technical Bid	02.11.2023 at 4:30 pm
Opening of Financial Bid	04.11.2023 at 4:30 pm (If possible)

Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
All other terms and condition remains unchanged to the Original Tender Notification.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer- Project (West) Division

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION
BRANCH OFFICE, SLN COMPLEX, NEAR KSRTC BUS STAND, MB ROAD, KOLAR-563101. Mob.No.-9448533478, E-mail – klr.ksfc@karnataka.gov.in
SALE OF ASSETS THROUGH E-AUCTION PORTAL
The following assets taken over under section 29 of SFC's Act 1951 are available for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** through e-auction. The interested persons for the purchase of the following properties may participate in the e-auction.
Name of the Unit: M/s.Opto Inspection Systems Co.
Land & Building: Industrial land bearing Plot No.36-P-3, 4th Phase, KIADB Indl. Area, Malur, Malur Taluk, Kolar Dist., land measuring 1011 Sqmtrs including Factory building measuring 284.05 Sqmtrs and also Office room, Security room and Toilet Block. This property is standing in the name of Sri Anand. Bounded by: EAST- Buffer Zone, WEST- Plot No.36-Part-2, NORTH- 15.00 Mtrs wide Buffer zone, SOUTH - KIADB road.
Plant & Machinery : 30 ton capacity steel body C frame power press-1No., 63 ton capacity steel body C frame power press-2No, 100 ton capacity steel body C frame power press-1No. and Forklift in dismantled condition.
Reserve Price: Rs.94.09 lakhs EMD amount: Rs.9.40 lakhs
Property Inspection:21.09.2023 between 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.
Terms and Conditions: 1. Assets are for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** through e-Auction. **2.** e-Auction will commence from 17.10.2023 from 11.00 A.M and closes on 24.10.2023 at 4.00 P.M. **3.** The last date for payment of EMD through Online will be on 23.10.2023 upto 4.00 P.M. **4.** The Purchaser has to pay 25% of the sale amount including EMD amount within 24 hours from the date of sale before the closing working hours of the office. The balance 75% of the sale amount has to be paid within 15 days from the date of sale communication. **5.** Loanee / personal guarantors are hereby requested to bring prospective buyers through e-auction as per terms and conditions of e-auction. **6.** For further details of e-Auction Sale and the other terms and conditions please refer to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in 7.** Interested bidders may contact e-procurement help desk No.080-46010000/ 22631200 OR may visit e- Procurement Cell, situated at 4th Floor, SSS Buildings, Opposite to RBI, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru-560001 for further clarifications and also from Branch Office, Kolar as mentioned above.
Date :14.09.2023
Place: Kolar
Sd/-
Asst. General Manager

Limits of identity

Civil society should strive to be non-partisan to aid peace in Manipur

One of the most disconcerting features of the ongoing ethnic strife in Manipur remains the inability of civil society representatives to rise above their "ethnic" affiliations and work towards peace. This is exemplified by the acts of the Meira Paibi, an amorphous organisation of Meitei women, who have in the past mobilised against armed forces and police excesses, alcoholism, drug addiction and sexual violence in the State. During the conflict that has raged on since early May, however, the Meira Paibi has been working towards disrupting the operations of the Assam Rifles in their attempt to maintain peace, especially in the foothills. These areas, called "buffer zones", were created to ensure that there is no further escalation of violence between arms-wielding people of the two ethnic communities, but there have been violent attacks with the armed forces unable to act on time because of disruptions, allegedly, by the Meira Paibi among others. Clearly, the situation has been brought to a boil by the looting of weapons by both Kuki-Zo and Meitei groups and their use in the strife. But the inability of the State government and its police and the Union government-deployed armed forces in maintaining peace has also been due to civil society groups supporting those engaging in violence.

Some Meira Paibi representatives had, in a press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday, claimed that they do not recognise the buffer zones, calling them "unconstitutional". The presence of armed forces in peacekeeping is not an ideal solution in most circumstances. But with the ethnicisation of law enforcement, aided by a State government that seems to have lost its legitimacy of power across ethnic divides, leading to demands for a separate administration by Kuki-Zo representatives, the armed forces' presence and the need for buffer zones to maintain a semblance of peace have become essential in Manipur. Civil society groups such as the Meira Paibi can rise above their narrow ethnic identities to press for justice for women affected in the conflict and thus build solidarity networks that will aid the process of reconciliation and peace-building. Sadly, that does not seem to be the case today. Civil society organisations have whipped up the frenzy of ethnic hatred, partially due to the recurring trauma from the violence, as much as cynical political representatives have. And this has meant that the cycle of violence has endured. History suggests that a breakthrough can only be achieved through non-partisan leadership and civic dialogue among civil society and political representatives. As things stand, for that to happen there needs to be a credible alternative to the current leadership in the State.

Broadening the field

Science awards should aim to encourage more young scientists

After a delay of nearly a year, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has announced winners of the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (SSB) Prizes. With a legacy of over half-a-century, the awards – they comprise a cash prize, citation and salary perks – are awarded annually to scientists under 45 with outstanding work in the fields of biology, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, medicine, earth sciences and physical sciences. Some of India's most accomplished scientists have been awardees and it is not a stretch to say that they are akin to an "Indian Nobel" and fairly coveted. It was unusual then, last year, when the CSIR did not announce awards despite the winners having already been picked before September 26, the institute's foundation day and traditionally the date on which the year's winners are announced. The background to this was the government's decision to prune prizes to scientists. There were too many awards by various ministries, thereby reducing its prestige, a Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) communiqué suggested. There were plans to announce one 'big award' akin to a 'Nobel Prize', but none has been announced so far. While the MHA ultimately decided to retain the SSB prizes, the government's long silence on its future did foment concern among scientists of their likely discontinuation.

Science awards, unlike those given for say athletics, are not meant to fete the outcome of a defined, demarcated contest such as a match or a race but are a recognition for industrious work done over time, that have led to significant advances in science or technology. They are meant to encourage the winners to persevere, against the uncertainty inherent in the scientific enterprise, which on average is a financially less rewarding career than several other options a trained scientist could have embarked upon. This year's 12 winners are all male, with 11 from centrally-funded institutions. Within these too, the winners are largely from the Indian Institutes of Technology. While the chosen candidates are certainly deserving, there are surely many more women or researchers from state universities who deserve recognition for their work. And so, rather than reducing the number of awards, there is actually a stronger case for expanding the remit of these awards, given the government's tireless espousal of its commitment to diversity and expanding opportunities to those beyond enclaves of privilege. The success of India's Chandrayaan-3 mission demonstrates that great victories and moments of triumph are built on consistent encouragement while plodding along the dark alleys of uncertainty and failure.

Disentangling the 2030 global renewable energy target

Tejal Kanitkar
is with the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru

T. Jayaraman
is with the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai

The presidency of the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to be held in Dubai (November 30-December 12), has called for agreement on a global target of tripling renewable energy capacity from current levels by 2030. This figure appears in the G-20 declaration too, though only as an aspirational goal to be encouraged.

There is an undoubted win-win appeal to the proposal of this easily understandable global target. However, any serious deconstruction of this target should significantly dampen such enthusiasm.

In 2021, the global installed capacity of renewable energy sources (RES) for electricity generation was 3026 Giga Watts (GW), or 39% of the total capacity from all sources. In total electricity generation however, the contribution by RES was only 28%. More than half the RE generation was from hydropower, while solar (13%) and wind (23%) accounted for about 36% of RE generation, that is 10% of generation from all sources.

Tripling RE capacity by 2030 implies a target of about 9000 GW, which is more than the total installed capacity from all sources in 2021, adding about 6000 GW of RE capacity between 2022 and 2030.

Most of this capacity is expected to come from solar and wind, as the time for construction and operationalisation of any hydro plants, will typically exceed the timeline of 2030 being considered. Assuming a capacity utilisation factor of 25% for solar and wind combined – more than is current – this implies the generation of about 13,000 TWh of electricity from RES alone. If growth in global electricity demand is at the pre-COVID-19 decade average of 2.6%, then the target of tripling RE capacity implies 38% of total global electricity production from RES.

Regionally differentiated energy needs

However, there is no such thing as "global" electricity demand, but only a global aggregate across countries. Electricity demand across countries is highly differentiated, and the rates of growth vary for countries at different stages of development.

Electricity demand is growing far more rapidly in developing countries currently. Electricity consumption between 2010 and 2019 in China and India grew annually at 6.6% and 6.3%, respectively, compared to a 0.3% decline in the European Union (EU) and a minimal 0.12% growth in the United States. It is evident that any substantial RE addition in the EU and the U.S. must come from an accelerated phaseout of their fossil fuel use by 2030. Currently, only 21% of the electricity in the U.S., and 37% in the EU comes from RES (including hydro and biomass).

If the U.S. does not phase out its existing fossil fuel capacity, it will need only about 26 GW of new RE capacity to meet additional demand, and its share of the tripling target of an additional 6000 GW by 2030, would be only a measly 0.4%. At the same time, since India would need about 717 GW of RE capacity to meet additional demand, its share of the tripling target would be 12%. On the other hand, if all the fossil fuel-based electricity production of the U.S. and the EU is phased out, they would need to add about 1565 GW and 538 GW of additional RE capacity, respectively (again assuming current rates of electricity demand growth and a capacity utilisation factor (CUF) of 25% for wind and solar combined).

In the second scenario, with a full phase-out of fossil fuel-based capacity, the U.S. and the EU would account for more than a third of the new capacity, closer to their fair share of the burden. This would also allow developing countries a less onerous transition in the energy sector, without the North appropriating even the meagre remaining carbon budget with their still considerable fossil fuel capacity.

The opaque origin of the global RE target

Unfortunately, the COP28 call for the RE global target comes with a severe lack of transparency as to its origin. What we do know is that the inspiration flows from a report of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) that calls for "total renewable power capacity to more than triple by 2030, compared to 2022 levels, to over 11 TW globally".

Information available on the IRENA website shows that IRENA's scenario, underlying the proposed COP28 target, is very close to the first, highly inequitable scenario that has been sketched here.

In the IRENA analysis, most of the non-RE capacity to be added by 2030 is in developing regions. By 2030, 80% of power generation capacity in Sub-Saharan Africa is to be from RE sources, as compared to only 70% for the EU. The EU and Sub-Saharan Africa are projected to add about the same amount of RE capacity by 2050, though the non-RE capacity in the EU continues to be more than four times that of Sub-Saharan Africa. China and India are to do much more, with India needing to exceed even the very ambitious 500 GW mark by 2030.

Lack of equity apart, such absolute projections of installed capacity suffer from the fundamental problem of divorcing capacity addition from growth in energy demand. IRENA itself recognises that relative targets are inherently less risky as they are less dependent on demand growth matching expectations. Further, if the entire burden is on developing countries, this enormous increase in RE capacity is not possible without matching non-RE capacity for stability of supply, and the availability of viable storage options that are as yet nowhere near the scale envisaged by such ambitious targets. Finding the resources to build national grids adequate for their development needs at such dizzying levels of scaling up of RE capacity will pose additional challenges, given the inability to reach even the minimal annual target of $100 billion of climate finance covering all sectors.

Targets for 'thee but not for me'

Last but not least, the most vocal proponents of this global target do not have any such a target domestically. When Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced at COP26 that India would increase its ambition to 500GW from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030, U.S. President Joe Biden made no such promise or declare any renewable energy target. Nor has the U.S. shown any intent to declare one, apart from a general announcement (not committed under the Paris Agreement) to decarbonise the energy sector by 2035. The EU too has only a relative target, though an ambitious sounding goal of 40% of final energy consumption from renewable sources by 2030, but certainly not absolute. For both the U.S. and the EU, these targets are essentially market signals, which the governments will promote, but are not guaranteed by government intervention as in the developing countries.

Developing countries at COP28, especially India, should consider the tripling global RE capacity target only if the North commits to absolute targets domestically, that are equitable and commensurate with their responsibility, in an update of their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement.

At COP28, developing countries should consider the target only if the North commits to equitable absolute targets domestically

Changing the way the postman knocks

Gautam Bhattacharya
a former civil servant, is now an independent commentator on socio-economic issues and public policies

The new Bill authorises the Director General of Postal Services to make regulations related to activities necessary for providing various such other services as the central government may prescribe, and to fix charges of them. This provision is important as parliamentary approval will not be a prerequisite for revision of charges for any service offered by post offices, including traditional mail services.

What changes

This aspect in the new Bill gives the postal department the requisite flexibility in deciding the prices of its services in a fiercely competitive industry and help in responding quickly to market demands. Also, various initiatives of India Post to dispense citizen-centric services will now be based on a strong legal framework.

The new Bill authorises the central government which "may, by notification, empower any officer to cause any item in course of transmission by the Post Office to be intercepted, opened or detained in the interest of the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, emergency, or public safety or upon the occurrence of any contravention of any of the provisions of this Act....". Even in the existing Act (1898), there was provision for the Postal Department to open and destroy any postal article containing "explosive dangerous, filthy, noxious or deleterious substance" (Section 19, 19A, 23(3)(a) refer). The provision contained in the new Bill is more generic in nature and will arrest possibilities of smuggling and unlawful transmission of drugs and other contraband goods through postal parcels. There is no similar legislation for courier firms. India Post has a share of less than 15% of the market in the courier/ express/parcels (CEP) industry, and so the effectiveness of the provision to intercept, open or detain any item in the course of postal transmission on the grounds of national security and public service has its limitations.

A major part of the domestic courier industry is made up of medium and small players. If the Bill had any provision for such operators to register with any designated authority and if the central government had retained the authority to intercept and open parcels in the course of transmission by the couriers, that would have given teeth to the Bill to control the movement of contraband goods in parcels.

Futuristic postal delivery

The new Bill provides the central government "standards for addressing on the items, address identifiers and usage of post codes". This provision will have a far-reaching impact as the physical address may be replaced by a digital code using geo-spatial coordinates to identify a specific premise. Digital addressing, though a futuristic concept, may ease the process of sorting and facilitate accurate delivery of mails and parcels. This provision may even facilitate the delivery of parcels by drone, as is being experimented in some countries. However, there is a long way to go.

The most important aspect of the Bill is to drop the hitherto existing provision in clause 4 of the 1898 Act: "Central Government shall have the exclusive privilege of conveying by post, from one place to another, all letters ... and shall also have the exclusive privilege of performing all the incidental services of receiving, collecting, sending, despatching and delivering all letters...." This provision lost its relevance ever since couriers were allowed to operate in India since the 1980s. This happened because the definition of 'letter' was not spelt out anywhere in the Act or in subsequent Indian Post Office Rules, 1933. There is a huge grey area overlapping the concepts of 'letter' and 'document'. In the eyes of law, what the couriers hitherto delivered were 'documents' and 'parcels', not the 'letters'. Once the new Bill becomes an Act, all these legal debates as to what constituted a letter and what did not, will die down automatically.

Whatever may be the legal provision, a commoner perceives a letter to be a written and personal form of communication between two individuals, physically conveyed by post. After the mobile revolution, the importance of such written personal communication has reduced to a significant extent. As such, doing away with the provision of "exclusive privilege" by the central government in the new Post Office Bill is a step in the right direction and an acknowledgement of the reality.

The new Post Office Bill 2023 ensures that various citizen-centric services will have a strong legal framework

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nipah outbreak

Despite achieving a very high rank in the health index, the State of Kerala appears to be affected by emerging and re-emerging diseases. The Union Government should pay more attention to this State especially in locating epidemiology units, diagnostic centres with biosafety laboratories and assisting health officials in adopting control strategies.

Dr. V. Purushothaman,
Chennai

The resurfacing of Nipah, with fruit bats perceived to be the hosts, once again leaves farmers who cultivate exotic fruits in upland Kozhikode district staring at a crisis. Many here grow rambutan, dragon fruit besides lychee, passion fruit, the Brazilian jabuticaba and mangosteen. There are reports that farmers are experiencing a huge drop in the wholesale purchase of various fruits, especially exotic fruits, as people are apprehensive. Farms that use nylon nets too are affected. One hopes that there are awareness programmes. In 2018, banana farmers in Jalgaon, Maharashtra, suffered huge losses because of wild rumours.

Joel William,
Thrissur, Kerala

Hurdle of seat sharing

With the INDIA bloc about to begin work on seat-sharing, its leaders should realise that there should be some 'give and take' attitude among the group partners. The strongest party in a State should have the required number of seats to form the government. For instance, the Aam Aadmi Party is strong in Delhi and Punjab while the Congress is strong in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. In such instances, the strong party needs to be supported by alliance partners. Unless there is proper understanding, unity among the INDIA partners and clear messaging to voters, ensuring gains in the 2024 Lok Sabha election will be tough.

D. Sethuraman,
Chennai

The critical issues are seat-sharing, PM candidate and restraint in speeches to avoid any irritant unpalatable to alliance partners. The sensitivity in seat-sharing and projected PM face need no emphasis.

K. Nehru Patnaik,
Visakhapatnam

Water sharing

Karnataka is struggling with managing water resources, especially when it involves farmers and their water needs. The Karnataka Chief Minister has understood the pain of the poor farmer well. In turn, he needs to know that he would need to be fair also to Tamil Nadu whose major water source is the Cauvery. This has been an ongoing controversy for decades. Surely, meeting the needs of both States is proving to be challenging.

Anvil S.J.,
Mangaluru

Counterproductive

The stand by a Minister in Tamil Nadu against Sanatana Dharma is constitutionally right as a political party cannot be consolidated on religious lines. However, strong expressions by persons who are opposed to this philosophy will not take us anywhere.

In the evolving context of history, such doctrines or dogmas are counterproductive and will not lead to a harmonious society. There should be an element of compatibility. Otherwise, it will be nothing short of religious revivalism.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

'Sanathana dharmam' means eternal dharma or eternal law, as one understands it. To be frank, forthright and outspoken, this is a treatise with gems — rare traits such as honesty, goodwill (not known to many), forbearance, and patience (very rare in today's world). Let only those who are in the know of things talk about 'sanathana dharma'. Queering the pitch without understanding the gravamen of a sacrosanct thing, is not the correct way to handle a venerable subject.

Mani Nataraajan,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Are corruption cases driven by political rivalries?

PARLEY

Trilochan Sastry

is chairman of the Association for Democratic Reforms and former Dean at the Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru

Sanjay Hegde

is a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India

Last week, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) national president N. Chandrababu Naidu was arrested by the Crime Investigation Department for his alleged complicity in the ₹371-crore A.P. Skill Development Corporation 'scam', which reportedly took place during his term as Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister between 2014 and 2019. The TDP termed the arrest a "political vendetta" against Mr. Naidu by the Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) government. The ruling party argued that there is "clinching evidence" in the case. Are corruption cases against politicians driven by political rivalries? Trilochan Sastry and Sanjay Hegde discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Sumit Bhattacharjee**. Edited excerpts:

In recent times, many leaders have been arrested on charges of corruption including Mr. Naidu in Andhra, Manish Sisodia of the AAP in Delhi, and V. Senthil Balaji and K. Ponmudy of the DMK in Tamil Nadu. Are agencies following the law or is there an element of political vendetta in these cases?

Sanjay Hegde: Such cases are not unknown or new; they have been part of Indian politics for a long time. The first issue to be considered when such a move is made, whether by the Central government or any State government, is the timing of the case. Mr. Naidu's arrest has taken place just as general elections and Assembly elections are due in the State. But in the case of Mr. Sisodia, it was different; there was possibly an attempt to put pressure on the Delhi government. There is also a link to a southern State in that case.

Trilochan Sastry: This is targeted arrest of people from the Opposition parties. Data show that 43% of MPs and 44% of MLAs have criminal records. Many of them have serious cases of murder and rape against them. So, these arrests are only of a few people. Even if we concede that they are justified, the question is, why have all the others who have got such serious cases against them not been arrested? Charges have been framed against them and cases have been going on, but they are not being arrested. Why are leaders from the ruling parties not being arrested? All this clearly indicates that this is a political game rather than a desire to maintain law and order.

Many of the cases get picked up only when a party goes out of power. This leads to the allegation that ruling parties use investigative agencies for political purposes instead of genuinely tackling corruption. Is there any truth to this?

Tamil Nadu Minister V. Senthil Balaji leaves after appearing before a special court in the money laundering case, in Chennai. PTI

TS: That has been the case for a long time. Officers of choice are posted or retained just to serve the goals of the ruling parties. The director of the ED (Enforcement Directorate) got three extensions.

SH: It appears that the enforcement agencies such as the ED and the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) have become all-powerful. There is an obvious reason for digging into the 'scams' of the previous government. There is no doubt that there is no smoke without fire, but how far the investigating agencies are allowed to function independently is the question.

Are law-enforcement agencies allowed to function independently at the Centre and in the States? There are allegations that officers heading such agencies are posted to carry out the agenda of the ruling parties at the Centre and in the States.

TS: The important point is whether all the law-enforcement agencies are supposed to follow the verbal orders of those in power, or the law and the Constitution. In a scenario in which the ruling party loses an election and another party comes to power, we may find the other bunch of people being arrested. It may be a little harsh to say this, but there is a breakdown in the law-and-order system.

SH: The Supreme Court ruled in the Parkash Singh Badal case that you must separate the investigative machinery of the police from the routine law-and-order functions, to ensure a fully independent investigative machinery. But at no point of time or at any level has there been an independent investigative machinery installed. So, the police at the end of the day are answerable to some Minister, usually the Home Minister in the State or at the Centre.

> Prosecutions to bring down somebody's image before an election or to take revenge on the previous incumbent just after an election are not unknown. But what is new is that agencies are being used to break up parties and secure defections.
> SANJAY HEGDE

When the reins of power change, the investigating officers are either at the receiving end or are forced to change sides. This type of politicisation is not healthy. Officers get marked as men of some 'X' or 'Y' politicians.

Going by the constitutional powers bestowed on the enforcement agencies, do you think they can refuse to play to the tune of ruling parties, and that institutions such as Lokpal and Lokayukta can come into play?

TS: They have constitutional protection; you cannot sack an officer. The worst you can do is transfer him. Whether that officer can be harassed or not, that is the question. There are various perks, privileges, promotions, postings and perquisites that an officer can get if he follows the verbal orders of the powers that be. If he is hankering for them or if he succumbs to those, you will see the law-and-order mechanism that we have today.

SH: Adding to Mr. Sastry, let's take the case of an earlier CBI Director, Alok Verma. He had a certain measure of protection. But then, elections were coming up and Opposition leaders submitted a memorandum to him with regard to the Rafale deal. There were questions on whether he was going to file an FIR or not. He was thrown out of his office overnight. He had to fight a case in the Supreme Court and the apex court restored him, but it left enough leeway for the government to see to it that he never got back into his office. After retirement, the man has been fighting for what has been legitimately due to him (pension). He is being harassed. So, there is also a great disincentive if an officer threatens to perform his role in a manner which is not to the liking of the government of the day.

Will empowering institutions such as the Lokpal or Lokayukta help?

SH: Well, I don't see the Lokpal being active or effective currently.

TS: The basic question is, can investigation agencies function independently? They cannot function with the strengthening of Lokpal. So, why are they not functioning independently? Basically, under the threat of punishment and even post-retirement punishment, people are made to fall in line. There is a careful selection of people as to who will toe the line. They (the powers that be) don't want honest, upright, independent people heading these agencies. They prefer people who will investigate those cases which they want investigated.

Are corruption cases being filed to intimidate politicians to join the ruling party?

TS: In the case of Mr. Naidu, I don't think they are trying to get him to join the ruling party. There is no way he can join the ruling party (YSRCP). But in other States, we are aware of such things happening. The lesser-known leaders or not-so-tall leaders are given a choice: either you join us or we will send the ED. We saw this in Maharashtra. And many people jumped ship because they would otherwise land up in jail. The simple thing is, how do people remain in power? They often use whatever means they have at their disposal, including the police, the ED, the Income Tax Department, and other investigation agencies.

SH: These kinds of prosecutions to bring down somebody's image just before an election or to take revenge on the previous incumbent just after an election are not unknown. But what is new is that in the past few years, agencies are being used to break up parties and secure defections. The ability to administer '*dand*' (punishment) has been weaponised. This is even more dangerous for the agencies because if they get to a stage where they say, 'okay, somebody has ordered us to make a case out of anything, whether true or false, we will just follow the instructions and let people sort it out in the courts', they are divesting themselves of any independent judgment or any claims to independence whatsoever.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

STATE OF PLAY

Using cinema to stoke communal tensions

While Razakars unleashed great terror in Hyderabad, violence was not always along communal lines

Serish Nanisetti

On September 17, 1948, Hyderabad was integrated into the Union of India when Indian Army tanks rolled into the princely state and forced the Razakars, the private army of the Nizam, to lay down arms along with the Hyderabad Army. This event has become a divisive issue 75 years later thanks to a cinematic flourish being added to it. The poster of a movie called *Razakar – Silent Genocide of Hyderabad*, released in July, showed a young man with a religious tuft being impaled by a bayonet. The financier of the movie is a BJP leader. At the poster-release function, BJP leaders including Bandi Sanjay and former Maharashtra Governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao spoke about the Razakar terror. Mr. Bandi Sanjay noted that the movie was inspired by *The Kashmir Files*. The film has the potential to colour public opinion and also affect political calculations in Telangana.

After India became free on August 15, 1947, Nizam Osman Ali Khan refused to join either India or Pakistan contending that he gave equal importance to both communities. On June 9, 1948, the Razakar leader, Kasim Razvi, of the Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen, famously said that he would fly the Asaf Jahi dynasty flag from the battlements of the Red Fort. By then, the Razakars, who were mostly armed with muzzle loaders and sticks, had let loose a reign of terror backed by the Nizam's police and district officials. According to one report, they were responsible for the murder of 880 people and the rape of about 1,125 women before August 1948. Two incidents of violence perpetrated by them particularly stand out. K.M. Munshi wrote in *The End of an Era: Hyderabad Memories* about how 200 people were murdered by the Razakars in Gorata B village in Basavakalyan in Karnataka. And in Bairanpalli village in Jangaon, 88 persons were shot dead after a five-day struggle at the village fortification. One of the most prominent victims of Razakar atrocities was journalist Shoebullah Khan of the Urdu newspaper *Imroze*. His arm was cut off and he was killed. It is thus a fact that the Razakars unleashed great terror, which led to Hyderabad's merger with the Union of India. Many wealthy Hindu families had to leave Hyderabad for Madras, Vijayawada, Nagpur, and other areas of India. They returned only when peace was restored.

However, violence was not always along communal lines. Many Razakars were financed by landlords who were upper-caste Hindus. "Despite the Ittehad's fanatical talk of Islam, both the Razakar raids in favour of the landlords (mostly Hindus) and the Sangham (the Communist, Andhra Mahasabha) resistances against them were surprisingly free from all religious articulations," wrote Amit Kumar Gupta in *The Agrarian Drama: The Leftists and the Rural Poor in India, 1934-1951*. Communist ideologue P. Sundarayya wrote in the aftermath of Operation Polo, "There was not a single clash between the people's squads and the forces of the Indian Army during this period."

To paint today the violence of a medieval feudal set-up as communal would be a misrepresentation of history. The Nizam wanted to stay independent and knew that 81.1% of the population in the region was Hindu. The complex narrative of the time can be gleaned from the fact that upper-caste Hindu landlords were the targets of the Telangana Armed Struggle. In his list of well-known peasant struggles, historian Inukonda Thirumali lists 34 instances between 1944 and 1946. Out of these, only two were against Muslims. In this context, the movie poster is provocative and indicates an attempt to sow seeds of discord before elections.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A trail of destruction in Libya

People stand on a damaged road in Shahhat in north-eastern Libya. Thousands of people are feared dead in the North African country after Storm Daniel triggered devastating floods. Confirmed death tolls given by officials so far have varied, but they are all are in the thousands, with thousands more on lists of the missing. The Mayor of Derna, the city hit hardest by the floods, said deaths in Derna alone could reach 18,000-20,000, based on the extent of the damage. REUTERS

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 15, 1973

Untouchability: Giri for capital punishment

Hyderabad, Sept. 14: Expressing grave concern at the prevalence of the evil of untouchability, particularly in the rural areas, the President, Mr. V.V. Giri, to-day advocated capital punishment to those who practised untouchability. Those who practised untouchability or perpetuated any disability based on caste should be branded the biggest enemies of society and dealt with as such. Very severe and deterrent punishment must be meted out to them, he said. He suggested amendment of the relevant provisions of the Constitution to provide for capital punishment to them. Mr. Giri was inaugurating this morning the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College of Arts, Commerce and Science in Chikkadpalli. Stating that the practise of untouchability was a cancer which would destroy our socialist democracy, Mr. Giri said, "Unless we remove it lock, stock and barrel, we will not be able to realise our ideals of prosperous India in a peaceful world. We shall forfeit all our claims to be champions of the oppressed people, everywhere. Nearer home, we failed to show the same concern for the weaker sections in society." The President said that the raising of the standard of life of the Scheduled Castes and other backward communities was a Herculean task.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 15, 1923

Leader's speech

London, Sept. 14: In the course of an address delivered yesterday at Newcastle, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Chief Whip of the Labour Party in the House of Commons, used language pregnant with meaning for Indians. Outlining the policy that Labour would pursue if in power Mr. Henderson declared: As an indication of Labour's desire, to restore free flow of trade and commerce, a policy of open door should be applied to all non-self-governing British possessions. That statement can only mean that Labour on coming into power would insist upon India, Ceylon and other non-self-governing units of the Empire remaining free trade countries.

From Page One

Jana Sena, TDP to fight A.P. election together

"The immediate plan of action of both the TDP and the Jana Sena Party is to hold talks with the cadres and chalk out a plan to prepare for the elections that are likely to be held within six months in Andhra Pradesh," he said.

Mr. Kalyan added that a delegation of the TDP and the Jana Sena Party would also meet President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah on the state of affairs in Andhra Pradesh.

Destroying *Sanatana* is agenda of INDIA: Modi

He also repeatedly referred to the INDIA bloc as "INDI Alliance" or the "Ghamandia [arrogant] Alliance". "... there are some parties that are busy dividing the country and the society. They have made an INDI alliance, the Ghamandia alliance. Their leader has not been decided, there is confusion around their leadership, but in the meeting in Mumbai recently, I feel they have formulated the policy and strategy on how will this Ghamandia alliance will work," he said.

In Raigarh too, the PM attacked the Opposition alliance, and alleged that it had been formed to "destroy *Sanatana* culture".

While reserving a major chunk of his address in Bina, a district in Bundelkhand region, to attack the INDIA bloc, Mr. Modi also spoke of other governance and development initiatives. He said that the outlay of ₹50,000 crore was higher than the annual budgets of many Indian States.

"The modern petrochemical complex to be built in Bina will take this entire region to new heights of development, I guarantee you this. Due to this, new industries will be established here. Not only will the farmers and small entrepreneurs here get help, the biggest thing is that youth will also get thousands of employment opportunities," he said. On the corruption issue, Mr. Modi the Prime Minister referred to the Godhan Nyay Yojana of the Chhattisgarh government to promote organic farming and the alleged irregularities in spending the District Mineral Fund.

Govt. to tell SC on price mechanism of drugs

The Health Ministry, in April, had said that it has been able to cap the ceiling prices of 651 out of 870 essential medicines listed under the National List of Essential Medicines, due to which the approved ceiling price of medicines had decreased by an average of 16.62%. The court has been hearing the case for years. The petition had raised objections on the formula for drug pricing.

It had said the formula institutionalised "superprofits in the guise of price control, excluded from price control life-saving medicines for diseases such as malaria and TB, excluded all fixed dose combinations which amount to 50% of the market." The NGO had said the government's pricing policy further excluded essential medicines belonging to the same chemical class, besides drugs provided in the national health programmes such as for HIV, diabetes, hypertension and anaemia, medicines with appropriate dosages for children and patented medicines.

At least 12 go missing as boat capsizes in Bihar

"If the government had constructed a river bridge here for which we have been demanding since long, this incident would not have happened," said Saryu Rai, a villager.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, speaking to the media, said that senior district officials have been "directed to reach the spot and the State government will provide all adequate assistance to the affected families".

Govt. limits wheat stocks to curb price rise

When asked about the retail prices of foodgrains, sugar, and edible oil ahead of the upcoming festivities, he said there will not be any sharp increase in their prices and the Centre has adequate stocks of essential items. He said the government is keeping a close vigil on hoarders. "So my analysis is that in the upcoming festive season, I do not see any kind of a sharp upswing in prices of the commodities that we deal with whether it is wheat or rice or sugar or edible oils," Mr. Chopra said.

He added that sugar prices are stable but rumours of likely shortage due to weak monsoon in August has resulted in an increase in prices in some areas. "So, this is just to clarify that there's adequate sugar stock of 85 lakh tonne in the country, which is sufficient for three-and-a-half months' requirements," he said. The government has released 25 lakh tonnes of sugar in August, which is two lakh tonnes in excess, Mr. Chopra said. He said the Centre expects bumper production of rice in this kharif season and sugarcane production will also be good in States like Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Two LeT terrorists encircled in Anantnag, say security forces

They were allegedly involved in the killing of two Army men and a DSP; heavy firing was report at Gadool on Thursday as two more soldiers were injured while retrieving the bodies; contact was established with the hiding militants, say officials

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Security forces on Thursday intensified anti-militancy operation at Anantnag in south Kashmir to hunt down the hiding militants behind the killing of three officers on Wednesday. Heavy firing was reported at Gadool hamlet, Kokernag area in Anantnag since Thursday morning. Official sources said a contact was established with the hiding militants, whose number is between two and three, in the morning when the operation was resumed.

Loud explosions were heard in the thick forest area where the militants are believed to be holed up and using thick foliage and undulating terrain to their advantage.

"Our forces persist with unwavering resolve as they encircle two LET (Lashkar-e-Taiba) terrorists, including Uzair Khan," a police spokesman said.

Sources said security forces pressed into service drones and helicopters to maintain a vigil of the encounter site. Additional troops were also rushed to fortify the cordon in the area. Colonel Manpreet Singh, Major Aashish Dhonchak and Deputy Superintendent of Police Humayan Bhat, were killed on Wednesday in an ambush laid by the militants.

Hundreds of locals participated in the last rites of Bhat on Wednesday night.

Official sources said the officers, who got injured during the gunbattle, could not be evacuated immediately from the site due to the positions held by the militants in the area.

A Srinagar-based Army spokesperson said two more soldiers were injured in the Anantnag operation, while retrieving the bodies of Colonel Singh and Major Dhonchak "through specialised operations in the treacherous terrain".

"In the ensuing operations two more personnel have been injured. The operation is still under progress," the Army said.

The Army said the operation on Wednesday was launched based on leads obtained during the search of a village. "It was ascertained that the terrorists were in a hideout in the higher reaches above the village, which was covered with dense foliage and undergrowth," the Army said.

The Army said both the deceased Army officers had earned Sena Medals.

Family members mourn the death of Colonel Manpreet Singh at his home near Chandigarh on Thursday. He was killed in a gunfight with terrorists in Anantnag district on Wednesday. PTI

Only talks will end militancy in J&K, says Abdullah

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, who visited the residence of the slain Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Humayun Bhat in Srinagar on Thursday, said only talks would end militancy in J&K.

"We have witnessed this devastation for many years. I don't see its end. We get to hear about encounters in Rajouri etc. and the government claims militancy has been eliminated. Has militancy ended?" Dr. Abdullah said.

'Return of peace'

He said militancy would not end in Jammu and Kashmir till a way was not found for return of peace. "Fighting will not bring peace but talks will. Ukraine is an example. The place is devastated because of fighting. There is no way but only talks will bring peace there too," Dr. Abdullah said.

Opposition attacks BJP over G-20 celebrations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders belonging to the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) targeted the BJP for holding G-20 "celebrations" and felicitating Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the BJP headquarters on a day terrorists killed four security personnel in Jammu and Kashmir.

"While our soldiers were fighting the battle with Pakistan-sponsored terrorists in Anantnag and news had come out about the death of our three soldiers and some were wounded, Modi*ji* was doing his own *mahima mandan* [self glorification] in BJP headquarters," Col. Rohit Chaudhary (retd), head of the Congress' ex-servicemen department, said.

Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien said, "Marigolds for Modi but not a minute for the martyrs. It is high time we call out the hypocrisy of PM Modi. Stop celebrating Mr. Modi while the brave soldiers lay down their lives."

CPI general secretary D. Raja said the situation in J&K was not normal or peaceful as claimed by the Union government.

Shah asks officials to use simple, clear Hindi; says it 'united' people of country

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday that simple and clear Hindi words should be used in office work, adding that the principle of language change says that "language moves from complexity to simplicity".

The Minister said that the Hindi language had played an unprecedented role in uniting the country during the difficult days of the Independence movement, instilled a feeling of unity in a country divided into many languages and dialects, and played an important role in carrying the freedom struggle from east to west and north to south in the country.

'Democratic language'

Releasing a video message on the occasion of Hindi Divas, Mr. Shah said that Hindi has been a democratic language and has honoured different Indian languages and dialects as well as many global languages, and adopted their vocabularies, sentences and grammar rules.

Considering the important role of Hindi in the freedom movement and after Independence, the architects of the Constitution had accepted Hindi as the official language on September 14, 1949, he said.

Amit Shah

The Home Minister emphasised that the original and creative expression of any country is possible only through its own language. "Hindi neither ever has competed and nor will compete with any other Indian language. Only by strengthening all our languages, a strong nation will be created. I believe that Hindi will become a medium to empower all the local languages," he said.

He noted that the Department of Official Language of the Ministry of Home Affairs is making continuous efforts, by leveraging modern technology, to enrich Indian languages and to establish them as languages of public administration, education, and scientific use.

The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was constituted to periodically review the work done in the official language in the country. It was given the responsibility to review the progress made in the use of Hindi in government work and prepare its report and present it to the President, the Home Minister said, adding that the 12th volume of the report has been presented to the President. Only nine volumes of the report were submitted till 2014, but three volumes have been submitted in the last four years.

Since 2019, Hindi Advisory Committees have been formed in all 59 Ministries and their meetings are also being organised regularly. From the point of view of increasing the use of the official language in various areas of the country, 528 Town Official Language Implementation Committees have been formed so far. Even in foreign countries, such committees have been formed in London, Singapore, Fiji, Dubai, and Port-Louis.

INDIA bloc to boycott 14 TV news anchors, BJP deplores move

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) on Thursday said it would boycott shows and events by 14 television news anchors. The BJP deplored the move, with party president J.P. Nadda blaming it on an "Emergency-era mindset".

In its first meeting on Wednesday, the INDIA coordination committee had authorised its working group on media to draw up the list. The boycott applies only to the specific anchors and does not extend to their organisations.

No representatives from parties belonging to the Opposition alliance would take part in shows and events helmed by these anchors, it said.

The anchors are: Aditi Tyagi, Aman Chopra, Amish Devgan, Anand Narasimhan, Arnab Goswami, Ashok Shrivastav, Chitra Tripathi, Gaurav Sawant, Navika Kumar, Prachi Parashar, Rubika Liaquat, Shiv Aroor, Sudhir Chaudhary, and Sushant Sinha.

"The Emergency era mindset is alive among these parties," Mr. Nadda said in a post on X (formerly Twitter). "I.N.D.I Alliance should stop their antics immediately. They should instead focus on constructive work and serving people. Else, the path to obscurity will get even clearer," he said.

The INDIA bloc has been busy doing just two things, "bashing *Sanatan Sanskriti* [and] bullying the media", he said.

He said the history of the Congress had "many instances" of bullying the media and silencing those with differing views. "Pandit Nehru curtailed free speech and arrested those who criticised him. Indira [Gandhi] Ji remains the Gold Medal winner of how to do it – called for committed judiciary, committed bureaucracy and imposed the horrific Emergency," he charged. "Rajiv [Gandhi] Ji tried to bring the media under state control but failed miserably," Mr. Nadda said, adding that the "Sonia [Gandhi]-led UPA" had banned some social media handles "simply because the Congress did not like their views".

In a statement, the BJP said that issuing such a list was a "direct threat" to the media, adding that they were being gagged for speaking the "truth".

Cong. mulling second edition of Bharat Jodo Yatra ahead of Lok Sabha election

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

All eyes are on the first meeting of CWC that will be held on September 16 and 17 in Hyderabad

Many in the Congress are discussing whether a second edition of Bharat Jodo Yatra, from east to west, should be held before the Lok Sabha election next year.

With a growing demand from the rank and file, all eyes are on the first meeting of the newly constituted Congress Working Committee (CWC) that will be held on September 16 and 17 in Hyderabad.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra, led by former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, began from Kanniyakumari on September 7, 2022. It went on for 136 days and covered 4,000 km, before culminating in Srinagar on January 30.

There is a buzz in the Congress circles about a second Bharat Jodo Yatra, with several dates doing the rounds. On August 8, Maharashtra Congress chief Nana Patole told reporters that the yatra would begin from Porbandar in Gujarat and end in Meghalaya. Sources said the speculation that the yatra would begin from October 2 prompted many within the party to book their tickets to Porbandar.

However, as per sources, the party is now mulling December 1 as a possible date to commence the yatra.

"There is a conversation that we must begin from Assam and end in Gujarat. The second yatra would skip the 12 States the first one covered. And instead of a foot march, it will be in hybrid mode," a middle-ranking party leader said.

Mr. Gandhi has been maintaining that he is prepared for a second round if there is a decision to that effect. All his travels since the culmination of the yatra have been branded as Bharat Jodo Yatra, including his tours to strife-torn Manipur and Ladakh, and even his visit to a wholesale vegetable market in Delhi.

However, unlike the first edition during which a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Digvijaya Singh, no such panel has been constituted yet. "There are several private conversations happening at various levels. There is a larger consensus that a yatra before the elections could help in creating a momentum in favour of the party. But so far, there is no official mechanism in place," another source said.

There is also a contrary view within certain sections that the yatra would take attention away from election preparations.

'Will ensure Garuda Seva darshan for all'

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUMALA

TTD Executive Officer A.V. Dharma Reddy on Thursday said that the temple administration was taking all steps to ensure that every devotee has a glimpse of the grand procession of 'Garuda Seva' slated on September 22.

Briefing the media, Mr. Dharma Reddy said over one lakh devotees can witness the daily processions comfortably from the open-top galleries along the mada streets encircling the shrine.

APPEAL

Master Adhivarman, son of P.Vinoth, 2.5 years admitted in Christian Medical College is suffering from Griscelli syndrome with Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis syndrome (HLH). This is a rare genetic disorder. The treatment option for him would be to undergo allogeneic peripheral blood stem cell transplant (PBSCT). The best option for him would be to undergo Haploidentical stem cell transplant. The estimated cost of Haploidentical transplant at our center will come to approximately **Rs. 25,00,000**/-.

Please send donation however small and save the boy. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Adhivarman. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487, State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

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Submit items found in Gyanvapi survey to DM, court tells ASI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Gyanvapi mosque complex, in Varanasi. PTI

The Varanasi District Court has directed the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to submit objects found during its survey of the Gyanvapi mosque, which are related to Hinduism or are historically significant, with the District Magistrate (DM).

District Judge A.K. Vishvesha on Wednesday also directed the DM, or any person nominated by him, to protect the objects submitted by the ASI and present them before the court when required.

The order was passed by the court while allowing two applications moved by Rakhi Singh, a plaintiff in the Shringar Gauri worshipping suit of 2022, which demands worship rights inside the Gyanvapi mosque. The suit is pending before this court.

Advocate Saurabh Tiwari, appearing for Ms. Singh, informed that in one of the applications, his client had sought an order for "preserving" the Gyanvapi Mosque premises, claiming that the mosque committee was destroying the historical evidence related to the Hindu religion available at the site.

"The second application requests sealing and protecting certain areas of Gyanvapi Mosque premises so that no damage can be done to symbols of Hinduism by either the mosque committee or those who come to the mosque to offer namaz," Mr. Tiwari said.

Quash report by Editors Guild: Meitei body to HC

The PIL also requested for directions barring use of the said report by any authority or agency; journalists' unions based in Imphal had said the report was 'riddled with misrepresentations'

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

A Bench of Acting Chief Justice M.V. Muralidaran and Justice Ahanthem Bimol Singh has issued notices to all respondents. PTI

The Manipur High Court has now admitted a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by the International Meeteis Forum (IMF) that seeks to "quash" the fact-finding report published by the Editors Guild of India on the ethnic violence in the State. The PIL also requested for directions barring the use of the said report by any authority or agency looking into the conflict, alleging a nexus between the EGI and "narco-terrorist groups".

A Bench of Acting Chief Justice M.V. Muralidaran and Justice Ahanthem Bimol Singh on Thursday admitted the PIL and issued notices to all respondents, posting the matter for next hearing on October 12. The EGI and its members have been given four weeks to file their response even as the Deputy Solicitor-General accepted the notices on behalf of the Union and State governments.

The IMF, which has filed various PILs in the Manipur High Court since the ethnic conflict began, in its most recent one, has marked the Centre, the State government, the Editors Guild of India, the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union (AMWJU) and the three members of the EGI who visited the State for their report. The report was published by the EGI on September 2 after it sent a team to look into a complaint from the Indian Army about misinformation being spread in the State. The report concluded that the Meitei-dominant press in Imphal had allegedly fanned the ethnic violence by publishing misinformation that favoured the Meitei community. It drew sharp reactions from journalists' unions based in Imphal, who said that the report was riddled with misrepresentations.

An FIR was also registered against members of the EGI by the Manipur Police, based on the complaint of a "social worker". Chief Minister N. Biren Singh called the report "one sided".

While the EGI has already approached the Supreme Court for protection in this FIR, the IMF has now approached the High Court with a plea to stop the report from being cited or used in any inquiries related to the ethnic clashes.

The IMF, in their petition, pointed towards six instances of alleged "false and baseless" information in the EGI report, one of which was admitted by the EGI as an error in captioning an image.

Hopeful about Women's Reservation Bill: BJP leader

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

BJP Mahila Morcha chief Vanathi Srinivasan on Thursday said she was "hopeful" that the Women's Reservation Bill would be cleared sooner than later.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Ms. Srinivasan, an MLA from Tamil Nadu, said the BJP had long been supportive of efforts to clear the Bill and that it was "evident in the policies of the Modi government of women-led development that only Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi has the focus and intent to get it done".

In the run-up to the Special Session of Parliament from September 18 to 22, there has been speculation that the government may spring the Women's Reservation Bill as one of the first pieces of legislation to be cleared in the new Parliament building.

"I have seen the way Prime Minister Modi constantly focuses on getting more and more women into the party organisation and the programmes of his government that seek to empower women," she said.

She said while there was a perception that the BJP was a party that espoused traditional values, the Modi government had handed over Ministries such as Defence, Finance and External Affairs to women leaders. "We recognise the different roles that women occupy and empower women not just in those roles but in the larger context as well. In earlier non-BJP governments, women Ministers were given portfolios that kept them out of being central to government policy, or you had to be the legatee of a powerful dynasty to get anywhere. Under Modi*ji*, Ministries like Finance, Defence and External Affairs have been given to women who do not have a huge political legacy. We are deeply rooted in our *sanskriti* (culture) but also

Vanathi Srinivasan

adopting the changes that are the need of society," she said.

Asked about the income support programme for women launched by the Madhya Pradesh government, on the lines of the Karnataka government's "Gruha Lakshmi" scheme, that appeared to run contrary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's injunctions against freebies, Ms. Srinivasan said the impact on the State finances and whether the programme ultimately empowered women were the key.

"When political parties offer such programmes without any concern for State finances, this becomes problematic. This is not the case in Madhya Pradesh. As far as programmes lead to education, self-reliance of beneficiaries, we welcome it. In Andhra Pradesh and Punjab, the treasury is completely gone, they have no money left for social welfare and infrastructure. When you don't have money to build schools, then what is the benefit of giving them ₹200? Ultimately, money has to be spent for empowerment. There has to be a larger purpose for this," she said.

Ms. Srinivasan said the Mahila Morcha would be holding various programmes, including door-to-door campaigning for the BJP, reaching out to women beneficiaries, professionally qualified women, social influencers and even transgender persons in the run-up to the Lok Sabha election next year.

INBRIEF

Assam CM's wife threatens to sue Cong. MP Gaurav Gogoi

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's wife Riniki Bhuyan Sarma has threatened Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi with a defamation suit for claiming that a firm she is associated with was granted a Central subsidy of ₹10 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana. Mr. Sarma has threatened legal action and said he will retire from politics if anyone can prove his wife or the firm received any amount. "This is nothing but an attack to malign and defame a 17-year-old Assamese enterprise, which has adhered to every aspect of the law, headed by a woman entrepreneur," Ms. Bhuyan Sarma said.

VDC member kills wife with service rifle in Rajouri: police

A Village Defence Committee (VDC) member shot dead his wife with the rifle allotted to fight militants in the Pir Panjal Valley's Rajouri district on Thursday. A police spokesman said Tirth Ram, a sarpanch from Patrara, fired upon his wife with a .303 rifle during the intervening night of September 13 and 14. The victim, Neelam Devi, 46, was seriously injured in the incident and shifted to Sub District Hospital, Sunderbani, by the family members. "The victim succumbed to her injuries at the Government Medical College, Jammu, later," the police said. The police lodged a case under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 30 of the Indian Arms Act.

Pro-Maratha quota activist ends fast after meet with CM

Pro-Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange Patil finally called off his indefinite strike on Thursday after Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde personally met the activist at his protest site in Jalna district. Mr. Jarange Patil, who has been fasting since August 29, had earlier given the Shinde government a month's time to fulfil all demands, prominent among which include giving the Kunbi OBC community caste certificates to all Marathas, so that they may avail of benefits presently enjoyed by the OBCs. The activist had also stated earlier that he would withdraw his fast only if Mr. Shinde personally called on him with written assurances.

SC information a click away as it joins National Judicial Data Grid

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said data will be uploaded on a real-time basis. PTI

Real-time data on the filing and disposal of cases in the Supreme Court will now be available at the fingertips of the common man, just a click of a mouse away.

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud announced the onboarding of the Supreme Court on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) in open court on Thursday.

The NJDG portal is a national repository of data relating to cases instituted, pending and disposed of by the courts across the length and breadth of the country.

"The onboarding of Supreme Court's case data on the NJDG is based on the 'open data policy'. Now, our data will be uploaded on the NJDG on a real-time and daily basis... At the click of a button, you can get information about the institution, disposal and pendency of cases type-wise, year-wise, stage-wise and quorum-wise," Chief Justice Chandrachud explained.

Besides, onboarding on the NJDG would mean for the judiciary increased coordination, informed decision making, optimum deployment of resources and manpower, single source of data and a huge potential for high-quality research work.

The Chief Justice said the information available on the NJDG-SCI (Supreme Court of India) portal would include the current pendency of civil and criminal cases, filing and disposal of cases in the previous month, number of cases pending before three-judge, five-judge and even nine-judge Benches.

Cases pending

So far, 2023 has seen total pendency of 64,854 registered cases and 15,490 unregistered cases (yet to be cleared by the Registry) in the top court. The Supreme Court page on the NJDG shows that 583 three-judge Bench matters, 288 five-judge Bench cases, 21 seven-judge Bench and 135 (all of them civil) nine-judge Bench references are pending. The cases filed in August in the Supreme Court amount to 5,412 and those disposed of last month were 5,033. The Chief Justice said he would be forming more special three-judge Benches to clear pending cases.

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD
"KIND ATTENTION OF TANTRANSCO TURNKEY BIDDERS"
It is informed that a meeting has been proposed by the Managing Director / TANTRANSCO with TANTRANSCO turnkey bidders on **20.09.2023 at 11:30 Hrs**. to discuss about the Technical Bid Qualification Requirements of 400 / 230 – 110 kV SS and 230 / 110 kV SS with associated transmission lines under Green Energy Corridor – II projects.
All are invited to share your views.
Venue: 6th Floor, Auditorium Hall, TANTRANSCO Building, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai-2
DIPR/1056/Display/2023

UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Doon Helidrome Dehradun, Sahastradhara Road, P.O Kulhan, Pincode 248013 Tel. 0135 2608981
Letter No. 9161/UCADA/2023 **TENDER NOTICE** Date: 14 Sep, 2023
Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority, Govt of Uttarakhand is inviting Tender from DGCA Approved "Aircraft Interior Refurbishment Agency" in India to carryout Cockpit & Cabin Interior Refurbishment of SKA B200, MSN-BB1914, VT-UAB aircraft of Govt. of Uttarakhand. In case of any query, bidder may contact UCADA office through **opsucadajollygrant@gmail.com/ucadadoon@gmail.com**. The detailed tender schedule is as follows:

Date of Downloading of Tender	: 14/09/2023 Time: 16:30 hrs
Pre-Bid Meeting	: 18/09/2023 Time: 11:30 hrs
Start date for submission of bid	: 14/09/2023 Time: 16:30 hrs
Last Date for submission of Tender	: 21/09/2023 Time: 17:00 hrs
Last Date for submission of documents physically at UCADA	: 22/09/2023 Time: 11:00 hrs
Opening of Technical Bid	: 22/09/2023 Time: 11:00 hrs

Opening of Financial Bid will be intimated by e-mail to the technically qualified bidders.
For more details, please visit **www.uktenders.gov.in** / official website **www.ucada.in** / Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority, Doon Helidrome, Mussoorie bypass P.O.-Kulhan, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248013.
CEO, UCADA

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur
RISL invites e-bids from the eligible bidders for the following:

NIB No./ Date/ Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/ EMD	Start of sale /Last date
4241/11.09.2023 (RIS2324 SLOB00059)	Selection for System Integrator for Wildlife Surveillance & Anti-Poaching System Phase-IV (WS&APS-IV) in Rajasthan & Upgradation of Phase-I Components including Operations & Maintenance of Phase-I and Phase-IV for a Period of Five Years based on Open Competitive Bidding through e-Procurement/ e-Tender	Rs. 110.00 Cr/ Rs. 2.20 Cr	11.09.2023 16.10.2023

Details can be seen on the websites **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in**, & **http://doitc.rasthan.gov.in**. Bids are to be submitted through **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**.
Raj.Samwad/C/23/9187 Additional Director

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact no. 96461-18774)
Tender Enquiry No. MQP-221/2023-24/PO(M) Dated: 14.09.2023
CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites e-tender for Design, Supply, Testing, Commissioning, Integration, Reading, Analysis and 5 year O&M of 1,00,000 nos., "ISI" marked, LT AC 3-Phase, 4-wire, Whole Current Static watt-hour DLMS Category 'D2' compliant SMART METERS with rating 10-60 Amps, 50 Hz, 415 volts (3x240 volts), Accuracy Class-1 having Lag only protocol with ' Optical Port' AMI system & 2500 no.-/5 Amp, 11KV/110V&DLMS Compliant AC, 3 Phase, 4 wire CT/PT operated fully Static and AMR compatible smart HT Trivector Consumer Energy meters (CATEGORY D-3) of accuracy class 0.2S with 'Optical Port' AMI system & Communication infrastructure with a network platform across Punjab and Empanelment of technically eligible firms for private sale of above material. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 14.09.2023 (02:30 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C-649/23 76155/12/2181/2023/27836

COCHIN PORT
कोचिन पत्तन प्राधिकरण
Cochin Port Authority
Cochin-682 009, Kerala.
Applications are invited from qualified candidates for engagement on contract basis for execution of various projects of Cochin Port at Kochi, Goa and Lakshadweep.
For details please visit:
www.cochinport.gov.in
SECRETARY
(0484-2582113)

Office of the Electricity Department
Thrissur Corporation, Thrissur
RDSS-3116/23 Dated : 13.09.2023
THRISSUR CORPORATION ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
e-Tender Notice
Request for proposal for selection of system integrator (ERPSI) for supply, installation, commissioning, implementation and support for ERP system
log on to :
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) Assistant Secretary

All India Institute of Medical Sciences Madurai
Under PMSSY Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India
Corrigendum to Invitation for Pre-Qualification
International Competitive Bidding with PQ (ICB with PQ)
IFP No. PQ-B&SD/JICA/AIIMS-MDU/01, dated 14th August 2023
FORM OF CONTRACT: Unit Price Contract (Item Rate)
CORRIGENDUM dated 13.09.2023

For	Read
Application Submission Close Date : **18th September 2023 at 12 PM**	Application Submission Close Date: **03rd October 2023 at 12 PM**
Application Opening Date: **18th September 2023 at 3 PM**	Application Opening Date: **03rd October 2023 at 3 PM**

Note: Clarifications and addendum to the above subject, will be uploaded in due course. Please visit: **https://jipmer.edu.in/aiims-madurai**. For any further clarification Contact **Superintending Engineer Ph: 0452-2481104,** mail id: **semadurai45@gmail.com** and **Executive Engineer Ph:0452-2481106,** mail ID: **eecivil.aiimsmadurai@gmail.com**
The Executive Director, Project Cell Office, AIIMS Madurai, Government TB Hospital Campus, Thoppur, Austinpatti Post, Madurai-625008, Tamil Nadu, India.

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Mondipatti, Manapparai Tk, Trichy Dist - 621 306
Ph.: 04332 - 261600; Email : purchaserm.u2@tnpl.co.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Description of work	Due date
232423 002371	Sodium Bicarbonate (Food Grade) for Board Machine of TNPL Unit - II	29.09.2023
232423 002372	Latex 1 (Top Coat - Acrylic Binder) for Board Machine of TNPL Unit - II	04.10.2023
232423 002373	Latex 2 (Pre Coat - SBR Binder) for Board Machine of TNPL Unit - II	04.10.2023

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL & NIC Website. Detailed requirement, Quantity, period, terms & conditions, tender fee / EMD etc., are available in Tender documents which can be downloaded from Websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/5085/Tender/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

NMDC Limited
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
'Khanij Bhavan', 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500 028
CIN: L13100TG1958GOI001674
HQMM/4003-23/1100001030/095 Dt: 12.09.2023
MSTC REFER NO. NMDC/HO/42/23/24/ET/424
OPEN TENDER NOTICE
Online Tenders are invited through e-Procurement Mode for the following Equipment from reputed manufacturers directly or through their accredited agents in India required for NMDC Ltd., Diamond Mining Project, Majhgawan Panna, Madhya Pradesh – India.

Description of Equipment	Qty. (No.)	Pre-Bid Meeting	Display of Tender Document Period	Last Date (Tentative) & Time for Submission of Offer	Earnest Money Deposit
Supply and Supervision of Erection & Commissioning of 01 No., Wheel Mounted Hydraulic Operated Front End Loader with Bucket Capacity suitably derated to 4.2 to 4.5 Cu.M along with Operation & Maintenance spares (Cost Cap) for 6 Years /15000Hrs, whichever is earlier	1	29-09-2023 at 11.00 AM	**DRAFT:** 15-09-2023 to 29-09-2023 **FINAL: (Tentative Dates)** 09-10-2023 to 26-10-2023	26-10-2023 by 02.30 PM	Rs. 5,00,000/-

Complete Tender document is available on the website www.nmdc.co.in, www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome & http://eprocure.gov.in
Any corrigendum to the above tender will be uploaded only on our website www.nmdc.co.in and will not be published. Prospective bidders should visit the above NMDC Limited website from time to time to take note of corrigendum, if any.
For further details, log on to the Tender section of our website: www.nmdc.co.in
General Manager (Materials)

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-प्रथम उदयपुर
क्रमांकः ACE/NIT/2023-24/D-477 दिनांकः 09.09.2023
निविदा संशोधन सूचना-1
(निविदा सूचना संख्या-13/2023-24)
इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या-13/2023-24 दिनांक 24.08.2023 में क्रम सं 2 पर वर्णित कार्य "उच्च स्तरीय खेल सुविधाये एवं कुश्ती अकादमी एवं स्टेडियम निर्माण सरदारपुरा (नाथद्वारा) जिला राजसमन्द" की निविदा में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है। संबेदको से निवेदन है कि तदनुसार निविदाओं में भाग लेवें।

विवरण	पूर्व प्रकाशित	संशोधित
अनुमानित राशि	रु. 2000.00 लाख	रु. 2112.00 लाख
अन्य विभागों में पंजीकृत संवेदकों के लिये	रु. 40.00 लाख	रु. 42.24 लाख
रा.नि.वि. में पंजीकृत संवेदक के लिये	रु. 10.00 लाख	रु. 10.56 लाख
ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म भिरने एवं जमा कराने की अंतिम तारीख	18.09.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक	26.09.2023 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाइन निविदा खोलने की तारीख	19.09.2023 सायं 4.00 बजे से	27.09.2023 सायं 4.00 बजे से

निविदा में वर्णित अन्य सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।
(अशोक कुमार शर्मा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग-प्रथम उदयपुर
DIPR/C/13378/2023

KERALA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT (KSWMP)
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Loan No./Credit No./Grant No.: IBRD-P4960
Reference No IN-SUCM-368391-CS-QCBS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Project Director, Kerala Solid Waste Management Project (KSWMP) under LSGD, intends to notify direct Request for Proposal (RFP) without Expression of Interest for Hiring
"Selection of External Training Consultant".
RFP along with TOR is available at **www.kswmp.org** and **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**. Interested Consultants must submit their Proposals on or before **16:00 hours, on 09th October 2023** through electronic-procurement portal of Government of Kerala **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in.**
A pre-proposal conference will be held via online mode at **11:00 hrs. IST** on **14th & 18th September, 2023**.
Project Director, Upper Ground Floor, Trans Towers, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695014, Kerala, India, Telephone: **0471-2333011**, E-Mail: **tenderkswmp@gmail.com**, Website: **www.kswmp.org**
RO/02189/D3/2023/I&PRD

INBRIEF

Maharashtra Speaker hears disqualification petitions

Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar on Thursday began hearing the disqualification petitions filed against each other by the two rival Shiv Sena factions led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray. The hearing commenced in the Legislative Assembly and continued till 2 p.m. with as many as 34 petitions being heard. Both factions were being represented by their respective lawyers. In July, Mr. Narwekar had issued notices to 40 MLAs of the Shinde-led Sena and 14 of the Thackeray faction, seeking their replies on disqualification petitions against them.

Properties linked to 'Khalistan terrorist's aides' forfeited

A special court for the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has ordered forfeiture of the seized properties linked to four aides of Pakistan-based "listed Khalistani terrorist" Harwinder Singh Sandhu aka Rinda. The NIA seized a car and ₹7.80 lakh in cash on March 30. This is the first time the NIA had proactively sought the properties of terrorists to be forfeited to the state under Section 26 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act after being attached as proceeds of terrorism, it said on Thursday. Stating that forfeiture of properties was a new tool in its strategy to dismantle the terrorist ecosystem, the agency said it had adopted the approach to squeeze the financial resources of terrorist outfits as well as their operatives and associates.

Rubber crisis: farmers stage stir in Delhi, seek fair price

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rubber farmers from Kerala, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka, affiliated to the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), have demanded a fair remunerative price of at least ₹300 for a kilogram of natural rubber. They held a protest in New Delhi on Thursday against the Centre and alleged that the policies of the government are in favour of multinational tyre manufacturers.

The farmers said they should be adequately compensated in accordance with the increase in the cost of production.

"It is humanly impossible to survive with the present dismal price. Adding salt to the injury, the Modi regime is in the process of dismantling the Rubber Board and paving the way for intense corporate control. The Rubber (Promotion and Development) Bill, 2023 is a clear instance of pro-corporate policy by the BJP-led Union government," the AIKS said in a statement.

Leaders of the AIKS said a recent verdict of Competition Commission of India (CCI) that imposed fines of about ₹1,788 crore on tyre manufacturers for market manipulation is yet to be implemented.

All reported births, deaths to be digitally registered from Oct. 1

They will be registered on the Centre's portal; amended law the paves way for use of birth certificate as single document for various services

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

All reported births and deaths in the country will be digitally registered on the Centre's portal from October 1, according to a government notification.

The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023 that paves the way for digital birth certificates will come into effect from October 1. The digital birth certificates will be a single document to be used for admission to educational institutions, applications for driving licence, government jobs, passports or Aadhaar, voter enrolment, and registration of marriage, and others.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 1 of the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023 (20 of 2023), the Central government hereby appoints the 1st day of October 2023 as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force," said a notification by Registrar-General and Census Commissioner, Mritunjay Kumar Narayan.

The centralised database will also update the National Population Register, ration cards and property registration. FILE PHOTO

The centralised database will also update the National Population Register (NPR), ration cards, property registration, and electoral rolls.

The NPR, first compiled in 2010 and updated in 2015 through door-to-door enumeration, already has a database of 119 crore residents. The NPR is the first step to the creation of National Register of Citizens (NRC) as per the Citizenship Act.

It will be compulsory for the States to register births and deaths on the Centre's Civil Registration System (CRS) portal and share data with the RGI which functions under the Union Home Ministry. The Act authorises the government to "collect Aadhaar numbers of parents and informant, if available, in case of birth registration".

Currently, a parent voluntarily provides Aadhaar number for a newborn's birth certificate generated through the CRS. As on March 31, Aadhaar has a saturation of 93% for a projected population of 138.72 crore.

Filing cases on those bursting firecrackers not a solution: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday said filing cases against persons bursting firecrackers during festivals such as Deepavali might not be the solution against the dangers they pose to health and environment.

"Cases against persons bursting firecrackers may not be the solution. You will have to find the source from where it [firecrackers] is coming and stop that," Justice A.S. Bopanna, heading a Special Bench comprising Justice M.M. Sundresh, addressed the Delhi Police.

It was reacting to a report submitted by Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, for the Delhi Police, on the number of cases filed against sale, storage and bursting of crackers and the number of persons arrested.

The police statistics presented in the court showed that from 2016 to August 31, 2023, a total of 926 cases were registered for sale and storage of firecrackers and 3,120 cases filed for bursting crackers.

The police have arrested 2,616 persons for bursting crackers and 740 for sale and storage. The police said 51,692.413 kg of firecrackers were seized in Delhi from 2016 to August 2023.

The huge inflow of crackers is despite a ban imposed on them by the Supreme Court. The Delhi government has also prohibited the sale and bursting of firecrackers.

However, *amicus curiae*, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan said crackers make their way into the national capital, especially ahead of the Deepavali season in November.

Top priority

Ms. Bhati said the Delhi Police were giving top priority to prevent the sale, storage and bursting of firecrackers. District police chiefs had constituted flying squads; unauthorised stocks had been seized and sealed and an awareness campaign was on.

The law officer said no system, however scrupulously manned, was "foolproof". Justice Sundresh said there was no point taking action after the harm was done.

In an earlier hearing, Ms. Bhati, also appearing for Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO), had said the government entity was taking steps to expedite the usage of green crackers.

PMMSY: bridging gaps in the fisheries sector

In 2020, when the Indian fisheries sector was preparing for a big leap due to the reforms initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who understood the immense potential of the Blue Economy, and initiated systemic development of the sector, including carving out a Fisheries Ministry, the COVID-19 pandemic threatened to halt the progress. However, the PM turned this crisis into an opportunity by announcing the Atmanirbhar Bharat package for the fisheries sector. A significant sum of ₹20,050 crore was allocated for the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in 2020, committing the biggest-ever investment in the history of Indian fisheries.

Thanks to this fresh chunk of investment and focused attention, the PMMSY began to address critical gaps in the fisheries value chain from fish production, productivity and quality to technology, post-harvest infrastructure and marketing. It identified key strategic priority areas: marine fisheries, inland fisheries, fishermen's welfare, infrastructure and post-harvest management, cold water fisheries, ornamental fisheries, aquatic health management, and sea weed cultivation, among others.

L. Murugan

is Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Information and Broadcasting

India is now counted among the world's top three countries in fish and aquaculture production

As it completes three years, the PMMSY has successfully pulled inland fisheries from traditional waters, and infused technology, inspiring many talented and enterprising youth to venture into fisheries. Today, young woman entrepreneurs from the Kashmir Valley are efficiently rearing cold water rainbow trout using a recirculatory aquaculture system. Aquapreneurs in Nellore have become successful exporters, thanks to biofloc cultivated shrimps.

The PMMSY has also helped to expand fisheries to non-traditional areas. Almost 20,000 hectares of fresh pond area is being brought under inland aquaculture, and even in landlocked Haryana and Rajasthan, farmers are successfully converting their saline waste lands into wealth lands through aquaculture.

The PMMSY has empowered fisher women to explore remunerative options and alternative livelihoods, such as ornamental fisheries, pearl culture, and seaweed cultivation. A recently launched ₹127-crore Seaweed Park in Tamil Nadu's Ramanathapuram district is a truly pioneering step by the Modi government. The PMMSY has enabled 900 fish feed plants and 755 hatcheries, and is supporting research and genetic improvement of Indian White Shrimp at Chennai, the development of specific pathogen-free brood stock, and domestication of tiger shrimp in the Andaman Islands. India is now counted among the world's top three countries in fish and aquaculture production, and is also the biggest shrimp exporter in the world. The government has recently announced investment of ₹6,000 crore as a sub scheme under the PMMSY, taking total investment into fisheries to more than ₹38,500 crore over the last nine years. As the developmental partnership between fishermen and government gets stronger to harness the potential of the Blue Economy, I wish matinee icon-turned-politician M.G. Ramachandran, who portrayed the lives of the fishing community in the film *Padagoti*, was alive today. He would have definitely been happy to see how Prime Minister Modi, with his sincere efforts and clear vision, has been ably addressing the concerns of fishermen and supporting them on the path of development through the mantra of '*Sabka Sath*, *Sabka Vikas*, *Sabka Vishwas* and *Sabka Prayas*'.

(This is an edited and abridged version of an article by the author.)

8 injured as business jet veers off Mumbai airport runway, breaks into two

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Flight operations at Mumbai international airport were halted for an hour and 45 minutes on Thursday, after a business jet arriving from Vishakapatnam veered off the runway.

The jet, with the call sign VT-DBL, "veered off" the primary runway (runway 27) and entered the adjoining grass surface, following bad weather and continuous rainfall.

Photographs of the ill-fated aircraft indicate that it broke into two parts from the cockpit portion due to the impact of the accident.

The eight people on board, including two pilots, were injured and rushed to hospitals by the airport authorities.

Flight scare: Officials gathering around the damaged aircraft after it veered off the runway at the Mumbai airport on Thursday. PTI

The pilots are reportedly in a serious condition.

"On 14.09.2023, M/s VSR Ventures Learjet 45 aircraft VT-DBL, operating a flight from Vizag to Mumbai with six passengers and two crew members on board, veered off the runway at Mumbai International Airport. The incident occurred at approximately 17:02 p.m.," the spokesperson of Mumbai International Airport Ltd. (MIAL) said in a statement.

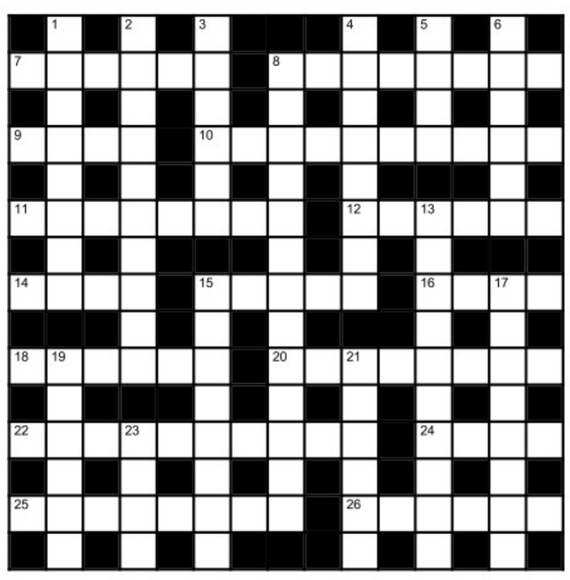
The passengers were identified as Dhruv Kotak, Lars Sorenson (a Denmark national), K.K. Krishnadas, Aakarsh Shethi, Arval Sali, and Kamakshi.

TH CROSSWORD + 13971

(set by Crescent)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Grave always in excavated space (6)
8 Armoured shell wheels rapidly (8)
9 Baseless story about compact contents (4)
10 Fit section wasted for sugar (4,6)
11 Setter's suggestion for The Listener's a headache (8)
12 Plate with metal closer to zinc runs in beds (6)
14 Celebrity in higher office (4)
15 Move by truck to keep shaking? (5)
16 Dances where the boys in blue must change for an earlier start (4)
18 Like a stick? Before working, gorge (6)
20 Views over wings (8)
22 Holding me tight, ask me and set right (4,5)
24 German physicist hard pressed by native Chinese (4)
25 Foundation doubling scale suffering severe blows (8)
26 Appear in smoke (4,2)

Down

1 Vested interest primarily a terrible downer (8)
2 Passing through with dogs, men end in safety (10)
3 Black strip not new for one used to plane (3,3)
4 The Reverend's fold bark for garbage collector (8)
5 Hurl well aired clothes back to heap (4)
6 Pick and shovel at first leading riot (6)
8 Price justification to support fine old clubs upset the dregs of Java? (6,7)
13 Winding lair, Bob the bunny's home perhaps (6,4)
15 Snake plant an adversary for fabulous knight (8)
17 Thing endlessly put away enthralls cold miser (8)
19 When keeping mum exhausted zombie staggers (6)
21 Special condition nurses cover (6)
23 Stretch from heel and dash (4)

SUDOKU

7				8	2	4		
6				3	5		8	
3	8							
9	7					6		
		1		6		7		
		8					4	9
							9	4
	4		2	1				5
		7	5	9				6

No.SS5920 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

T	R	O	O	P	S	V	I	E
E	U	R			M	O	E	W
E	M	O	T	I	O	N	C	A
P	C	N	K	G	S	E	R	O
L	O	C	O	M	O	T	I	V
M	U	L	I	G	E	H	E	R
S	T	E	R	N	O	C	C	U
E	C	G	O	N	P	I	E	D
E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R	L
I	M	I	T	S	N	A	O	A
F	I	N	S	H	A	M	B	U
R	G	E	R	S	T	U	O	S
R	N	A	V	I	O	L	A	T
E	A	F	F	E	C	T	S	V
T	E	E	A	S	I	L	Y	C
L	O	S	E	S				

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	8	3	6	5	7	2	9	4
7	4	6	2	9	3	5	8	1
9	5	2	1	8	4	7	3	6
8	3	5	9	1	2	4	6	7
6	2	7	3	4	5	8	1	9
4	9	1	8	7	6	3	2	5
3	6	4	5	2	9	1	7	8
2	7	8	4	6	1	9	5	3
5	1	9	7	3	8	6	4	2

FAITH

Teachings of the Ramayana

Vedas made their appearance in the form of the Ramayana. They reveal things that are not known to us (*Vedayatheethi Veda:*). Akkarakkani Srinidhi swamy said in a discourse that Lord Rama exhibited the tenets codified in the Vedas through His conduct and behaviour. The Vedas are the source of dharma, and Sri Rama was the upholder and embodiment of dharma.

Sage Valmiki has brought out in the Ramayana the five essential elements of life to be known by all. They are: realising the nature of one's self, means understanding that we are the subjects of God (*Aatma Swaroopam*), Lakshmana and Bharatha are portrayed as Sri Rama's servitudes; realising the nature of God – Lord Narayana Himself has manifested as Sri Rama, (*Bhagawad Swaroopam*); the ways and means to attain Him (*Upaaya Swaroopam*) – Vibheeshana is cited as the best example for Upaayam who had unconditionally surrendered at the feet of Sri Rama; the various obstacles that stand in our way (*Virodhi Swaroopam*) – Vibheeshana had not hesitated to tell Lord Rama that he was the brother of Ravana. We must admit that we committed various faults and sins and seek pardon; the end result (*Phala Swaroopam*) – Vibheeshana became the servitor of Lord Rama. God is sure to embrace and take us to his domain, Sri Vaikunta.

INBRIEF

LIC hands over cheque for ₹1,831.09-cr. dividend to FM

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Thursday paid a dividend of ₹1,831.09 crore to the Centre for 2022-23. Chairperson Siddhartha Mohanty handed over the dividend cheque to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Additional Secretary to the Centre's Department of Financial Services, along with LIC's managing directors M. Jagannath, Tablesh Pandey, Sat Pal Bhanoo and R. Doraiswamy, and ZM (I/C) of Northern Zone J.P.S. Bajaj were present.

NMDC increases iron ore prices by ₹300 per tonne

State-owned mining major NMDC has increased iron ore prices by ₹300 a tonne. With effect from September 14, lump ore price has been fixed at ₹4,950 and that of fines at ₹4,210. The announcement saw NMDC shares touching a new 52-week high of ₹150.90 each intra-day on the BSE before closing 5.59% higher at ₹150.20 apiece. Coming amid a rising demand for steel, Thursday's increase reverses the August 15 reduction and pegs the price to the July 18 level.

Sai Silks (Kalamandir) sets IPO price band at ₹210-222 a share

Sai Silks (Kalamandir) Ltd. has announced to open its initial public offering (IPO) of equity shares on September 20. The IPO comprises a fresh issue aggregating up to ₹600 crore and an offer for sale up to 2,70,72,000 equity shares by selling shareholders. The IPO will close on September 22. The price band has been fixed at ₹210-222 per share. Bids can be made for a minimum of 67 shares and in multiples of 67 shares thereafter, the company said.

Wholesale prices continue to fall

August's deflation in wholesale prices narrows to 0.52%, from 1.36% recorded in July; Fuel and power prices, whose year-over-year decline more than halved from -12.8% in July to -6% in August, led the narrowing in the deflation rate

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's wholesale prices remained in deflationary mode for the fifth month in a row in August but the decline in prices narrowed to 0.52% from 1.36% in July, even as inflation in food and primary articles slowed to about 6% from more than 7.5% in the previous month.

The narrowing in the deflation rate was largely driven by fuel and power prices, whose year-over-year decline more than halved from -12.8% in July to -6% in August.

Sequentially, however, the Wholesale Price Index logged inflation for the second successive month, rising 0.33% in August compared with 2.01% in July. Sequentially, fuel and power costs actually rose 3% after several months of declines, while manufactured products' prices rose for the first time in four months, albeit at a marginal pace of 0.14%.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry attributed the negative rate of inflation "primarily to the fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, chemical & chemical products, textiles and food products".

While the wholesale food index was up 5.6%, primary food inflation remained elevated at 10.6% in August after hitting a decade-high of 14.3% in July, with vegetable prices rising 48.4% compared with 62.1% in July.

Inflation in cereals eased to a three-month low of 7.25% in August, but paddy prices surged 9.2% and pulses by 10.5%, the highest pace in at least six months for both items. Onion prices shot up 31.4% in August, compared with 7.1% in July. Milk price inflation eased to a six-month low of 7.8% but was only marginally slower than the 8.15% recorded in July. Economists expect wholesale prices to rebound from the deflationary trend in the coming months.

Falling prices

Wholesale prices fell marginally year-over-year in August despite wholesale food inflation remaining elevated

- WPI, however, moved up sequentially for the second successive month, rising 0.33% in August compared with 2.01% in July
- Vegetable prices rose 48.4% in August compared with 62.1% in July; onion prices rose 31.4% in August, compared with 7.1% in July
- The govt. attributed wholesale deflation to the fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, chemicals, etc.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	67,519	0.07
US Dollar	83.03	-0.02
Gold	59,600	-0.08
Brent oil	93.29	1.13

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2519.80	0.90
Adani Ports	849.80	0.10
Apollo Hosp	5084.55	73.55
Asian Paints	3240.25	-37.50
Axis Bank	1020.90	6.45
Bajaj Auto	4844.50	36.20
Bajaj Finserv	1550.90	-1.90
Bajaj Finance	7494.30	18.40
Bharti Airtel	914.95	-0.20
BPCL	358.75	3.15
Britannia Ind	4574.35	-33.90
Cipla	1233.75	5.25
Coal India	277.55	-2.10
Divis Lab	3817.90	67.05
Dr Reddys Lab	5744.65	5.75
Eicher Motors	3381.40	61.10
Grasim Ind	1931.60	-1.40
HCL Tech	1283.60	8.35
HDFC Bank	1642.90	-1.00
HDFC Life	645.45	-4.75
Hero MotoCorp	2998.40	4.00
Hindalco	497.35	14.15
Hind Unilever	2500.80	-5.75
ICICI Bank	987.70	-2.10
IndusInd Bank	1458.25	3.20
Infosys	1506.95	8.60
ITC	449.95	-3.55
JSW Steel	810.35	-0.35
Kotak Bank	1821.55	-3.05
L&T	2918.60	11.85
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5498.60	-40.50
M&M	1566.00	29.05
Maruti Suzuki	10488.15	14.75
NestleIndia	22477.70	297.90
NTPC	237.95	0.80
ONGC	187.90	4.00
PowerGrid Corp	195.15	1.95
Reliance Ind	2453.30	2.25
SBI Life	1352.75	7.25
State Bank	597.30	0.85
Sun Pharma	1143.80	-4.95
TataConsumerProduct	884.55	-4.75
Tata Motors	624.60	-1.30
Tata Steel	131.70	2.15
TCS	3560.05	-7.80
Tech Mahindra	1279.85	19.45
Titan	3261.35	-1.85
UltraTech Cement	8687.95	51.60
UPL	631.75	23.45
Wipro	436.45	0.75

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 14

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.83	83.15
Euro	88.92	89.26
British Pound	103.32	103.73
Japanese Yen (100)	56.23	56.45
Chinese Yuan	11.38	11.43
Swiss Franc	92.76	93.12
Singapore Dollar	60.87	61.11
Canadian Dollar	61.25	61.49
Malaysian Ringitt	17.68	17.76
Australian Dollar	53.34	53.55

Source:Indian Bank

ECB raises rates again even as threat of recession grows

Associated Press
FRANKFURT

The European Central Bank piled on a 10th straight interest rate increase Thursday, pressing forward in its fight against stubbornly high inflation plaguing consumers even as worries grow that higher borrowing costs could help push the economy into recession.

The quarter-percentage point increase comes as central banks around the world try to judge how much anti-inflation medicine is too much – and what's the right point to halt their series of rate increases before the economy tips into a downturn and people lose their jobs.

The ECB raised its benchmark rate to 4%, up from minus 0.5% just more than a year ago and the highest since the euro was established in 1999.

Interest rates are at levels that "maintained for a sufficiently long duration" will make a substantial contribution to bringing down inflation, President Christine Lagarde said at a news conference.

"We can't say that now, that we are at peak," Ms. Lagarde added.

Odisha unveils special subsidy to attract investment in steel

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Odisha Government has unveiled a subsidy scheme to attract investment and boost the State's stainless-steel production. The scheme offers 20% capital investment subsidy and electricity duty exemption besides land allocation and Employees Provident Fund reimbursement.

Announcing the scheme at the Global Stainless-Steel Expo 2023 (GSSE 2023) in Mumbai, Mr. Hemant Sharma, Odisha's Industries Secretary said, "Odisha is making significant contributions to the stainless-steel sector and the minerals sector. Being the largest producer of iron ore and bauxite in India is indeed a noteworthy achievement. This positions the State as a critical player in the raw materials supply chain for various industries, including steel and aluminium."

Mr. Sharma said Jindal Stainless Ltd.'s proposed plant expansion to 3.2 MTPA in Odisha would be a game changer. "This investment represents a substantial commitment to the stainless-steel sector in the State," he added.

'Demand to rise'

"The demand for stainless steel in India is expected to grow at an average of 10% annually over the next few financial years, doubling the growth rate of 4.5% in the last five financial years," observed Anitha Raghunath, Director of Virgo Communications and Exhibitions, the organiser of the event.

Realty firm Signature Global unveils ₹730 cr. IPO

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Real estate firm Signature Global (India) Ltd. has announced to tap the capital market with a public issue of its equity shares on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 and set the price band for the issue at ₹366 to ₹385 per equity share of face value of ₹1.

The initial public offer (IPO) aggregating up to ₹730 crore comprises a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to ₹603 crore and an offer-for-sale aggregating up to ₹127 crore by the International Finance Corporation, the selling shareholder.

The offer will close on Friday, September 22, 2023.

Oil firms mull using 'stranded' $600 mn to buy Russian oil

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Indian oil companies are exploring the possibility of using close to $600 million of their dividend income stranded in Russia to buy oil from that country, officials said on Thursday.

India's top four oil companies – Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), a unit of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Oil India Ltd., and ONGC Videsh Ltd. – have not been able to repatriate dividend income they accrue from their investments in Russian oil and gas fields.

That money is lying in their bank accounts in Russia but could not be brought to India due to tough Western sanctions that followed Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

Officials said one of the options could be to loan the money lying in Russian bank accounts to entities buying oil. These entities could repay the loan in India. The entities that buy oil from Russia include IOC and BPCL. "We are studying legal and financial implications of such a move," an official said.

Indian Bank to finance Maruti Suzuki dealers

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding with Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. (MSIL) to provide inventory financing solution to the latter's authorised dealers through its digital Supply Chain Finance platform.

"Indian Bank is well-positioned to provide solutions to MSIL in its rapid growth journey," said Indian Bank Executive Director Ashutosh Choudhury in a statement.

"Indian Bank's supply chain finance will provide easy access to working capital finance to the dealers of MSIL, at favourable terms for driving their business growth," he added.

Rubber Board to increase area under rubber in Northeast States

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Rubber Board, jointly with the Central government and the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association, is implementing a project to expand the area under natural rubber in the Northeastern States.

Executive Director of Rubber Board M. Vasanthagesan told *The Hindu* on Wednesday in Coonoor that of the 8.5 lakh hectares under rubber in the country, almost 5 lakh hectares was in Kerala and Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu and 1 lakh hectares was in Tripura.

In a move to expand the area in non-traditional States, the Rubber Board was implementing a project to bring 2 lakh hectares under natural rubber in the Northeastern States, except Sikkim, but including West Bengal. The tyre manufacturers, who were the main consumers of rubber, were investing ₹1,000 crore in the five-year project that commenced in 2021. The potential in these States was for 4 lakh hectares, he added. Considering challenges such as landslides, it was decided to plant rubber on 2 lakh hectares.

Almost 27,000 hectares was covered last financial year and about 40,000 hectares would be covered this year. In the next two years, the remaining areas would be brought under rubber cultivation.

The project was expected to bring in socio-economic benefits and States such as Chattisgarh were also evincing interest in rubber cultivation, Mr. Vasanthagesan added.

Singapore waste-to-value firm plans India hub

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Singapore-based waste-to-value company Memsift Innovations will set up its first global engineering unit in India and raise $10 million to expand operations, said its CEO and founder J. Antony Prince.

The five-year-old firm will raise about ₹83 crore and require 2.5 acres for the unit that is likely to come up in Hosur. "₹50 crore will be spent over the next 3-5 years and [the unit] will employ 70-80 engineers," he said, adding it will open offices in Europe.

कार्यालय प्रधानाचार्य एवं नियंत्रण, पं.दीनदयाल उपाध्याय मेडिकल कॉलेज, चूरू
website: www.education.rajasthan.gov.in/mechuru
Email:- principal.mc.churu@rajasthan.gov.in Phone:- 01562-251888

क्रमांक :- मेडिकल कॉलेज/ लेखा/ निविदा/ Funiture Hanumangarh /2023 -24 /5624 दिनांक : 31.08.2023

NIT-06/2023-24
(UBN No.-MCC2324GLSS00009)

Online Bid for 1st LOP Supply of Furniture items are invited from interested bidders from Manufacturer Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises of Rajasthan up to 6:00 PM on dated 16.09.2023 for Medical College, Hanumangarh. The estimated value of procurement is about Rs. 2,61,88,500/-. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal htpp://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in of the State, http://gem.gov.in.

(Dr Bijendra Kumar Binawara)
Principal
DIPR/C/13400/2023 PDU Medical College, Churu

OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER, ALWAR
S.No.: NHM/Act./2023/210 Dated : 01/09/2023
Notice Inviting E-Bid / Other Bid
Bids for Hotel and Food arrangement, Stationery, Photocopy, Dharmsala, Tent Arrangement for NHM various training of Procurement are invited from interested bidders up to dated 25/09/2023. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on procurement portal (http://sppp.raj.nic.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state website.
NIB : (1) MHS2324A2132 (2)MHS2324A2133
UBN (1) MHS2324SLRC03363 (ii) MHS2324SSRC03364
(iii) MHS2324SSRC03365 (iv) MHS2324SSRC03366
(v) MHS2324GSRC03367
Chief Medical and Health officer
DIPR/C/13324/2023 Alwar

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत अलवर
सा.नि.वि. परिसर, अशोका टाकीज के पास, कचहरी रोड, अलवर
फोन: 0144-2737038, E-mail:-sealw. pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक 1962 Short Term NIT No 15/2023-24 दिनांक : 6/9/23
Bids for Construction of Various roads works by 03 package and 2 Building works are invited from interested bidder from 06-09-2023 04:00 Pm Upto 16-09-2023 06:00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (Http://eproc.rajasthan. gov.in and http://sppp.raj.nic.in of the state and http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurements is 900.31/- Lacs.(3 Pkg Road works and 2 Building Works)
UBN No:
PWD2324WSOB12610 PWD2324WSOB12646 PWD2324WSOB12644
PWD2324WSOB12647 PWD2324WSOB12596
Superintending Engineer
DIPR/C/13626/2023 PWD Circle Alwar

राजस्थान कौशल एवं आजीविका विकास निगम
कौशल भवन, जे-8-बी, झालाना संस्थानिक क्षेत्र, जयपुर-302004 (राजस्थान)
फोन - 0141-5103246, 5103247 वेबसाइट - www.livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक :- आरएसएलडीसी/प्रशा./रिक्तियां/2023-24/9320 दिनांक :- 08/09/2023
विज्ञप्ति
राजस्थान कौशल एवं आजीविका विकास निगम द्वारा राज्य के बेरोजगार युवाओं के कौशल प्रशिक्षण की परियोजना के क्रियान्वयन हेतु निम्नलिखित पदों पर राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार/सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों/बोर्ड/संघ के योग्य एवं अनुभवी अधिकारियों/कर्मचारियों से विशेष चयन द्वारा प्रतिनियुक्ति हेतु आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं :–

क्र. सं.	पद का नाम	पद की ग्रेड पे/ 7th पे मेट्रिक्स लेवल	आवश्यक न्यूनतम ग्रेड पे/7th पे मेट्रिक्स लेवल	रिक्त पद
1.	प्रबंधक	6600/ L-16	5400/L-14	1
2.	सूचना सहायक	2800/L-08	2800/L-08	2

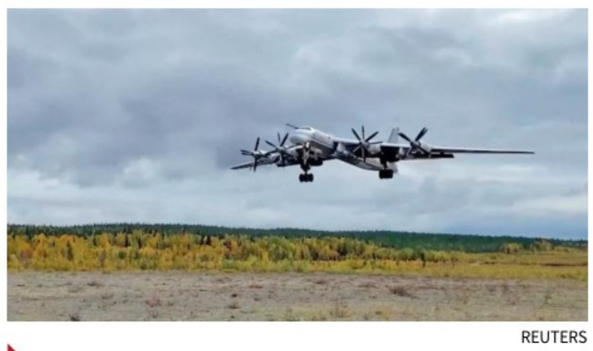
नोट :–
1. विस्तृत विज्ञप्ति, शर्तों एवं आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप www.livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in विभागीय वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है। रिक्त पदों की संख्या कम या अधिक भी हो सकती है। जिसके अनुसार प्राप्त आवेदनो में से चयन समिति द्वारा चयन किया जायेगा।
2. उपरोक्त सभी पद विशेष चयन से भरे जाने हैं।
3. विज्ञप्ति में दर्शाये गये पदों का पैनल तैयार किया जाएगा।
4. निगम द्वारा आवदेक के पैतृक विभाग (नियुक्ति अधिकारी) से अग्रेषित प्राप्त आवेदन पत्र पर ही विचार किया जाएगा।
5. आवेदन की अन्तिम तिथि 23.09.2023 है।
6. निजी प्रतिष्ठानों में कार्यरत कार्मिक कृपया आवेदन नहीं करें।
राज.संवाद/सी/23/9183 अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबन्ध निदेशक

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK
kerala IT EMPOWERING THE FUTURE
RFP No. 185/2023 Dated 07.09.2023
Proposals are invited for "Selection of a Co-Developer to build and operate an IT building under QUAD Project in Technopark Phase IV (Technocity) Campus, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala".
The last date of submission of RFP is 26.10.2023.
For further details, please visit https://www.technopark.org/tenders
Date: 15.09.2023 Chief Executive Officer
Trivandrum Technopark
RO/02186/D3/2023/I&PRD

IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU
(COMMERCIAL COURT) AT BENGALURU
Commercial O.S. 423 of 2020
Between
B. H. Narayanswamy and Others
R / at No. 566, 7th Main, A Sector, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru–560064 ...PLAINTIFFS
And
M/s Vikram Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd,
Represented by its Managing Director, Sri. Vikram Prabhakar and Others ...DEFENDANTS
NOTICE / SUMMONS TO THE BELOW MENTIONED DEFENDANTS
To
1. Mr. Naveen Purushotham - Vice President - Finance, M/s Vikram Structures Pvt. Ltd, S/o M.V. Purushotham, Aged about 40 years, Residing at No. 27/1, M.M. Cross, Nandi Durga Road, Jayamahal Extension, Benston Town, Bangalore- 560046. ...Respondent No.5
2. Dr. Shaik Munavar Hussain, S/o Late Shaik A. S. Bokhari, Aged about 61 years, Residing at 45/199, Balajinagar, Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh - 516003. ...Respondent No.12
3. Mr. Manish Kambdur, S/o Mr. K. C. Basavaraju, Aged about 43 years, Residing at No. 667, 12th Main, 3rd Block Near ESI Hospital, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010. ...Respondent No.15
4. Mrs. Srividya Karthik, W/o Mr. G. Karthik, Aged about 41 years, Residing at No. 150, K9, Block 2, Prime Terrace, Appaswamy Flats, L.B. Road, Thrivanimiyur, Chennai – 600041. ...Respondent No. 16
5. Mr. Juturu Naga Vijaya Krishna, S/o Mr. J Ravindranath, Aged about 34 years, R/o No. 22/196, Vasanthapet , Proddatur, Andhra Pradesh-516360. ...Respondent No. 25
6. Mr. Malepati Subramanyam, S/o Late Mr. Malepati Venkata Subbaiah, Aged about 60 years, R/o Flat No. 301, MVS Residency, YMR Colony, Proddatur, Andhra Pradesh – 516360. ...Respondent No. 26
7. Mr. Yarlagadda Sri Venkata Vara Prasad, Rep by GPA Mr. Surapaneni Ramababu, S/o Mr. Y.N. Kutumba Rao, Aged about 41 years, Residing at No. 101, Pragathi Nilaya, NTR Colony, Near NTR Medical University, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh–500208 ...Respondent No. 27
8. Mr. Manish Kapoor, S/o Mr. Jitendra Nath Kapoor, Aged about 49 years, Residing at Oberoi Exquisite B2302, Aba Karmakar Road, Behind Oberoi Mall, Goregaon East, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400063 ...Respondent No. 37
9. Mrs. Vandana Kapoor, W/o Mr. Manish Kapoor, Aged about 48 years, Residing at Oberoi Exquisite B2302, Aba Karmakar Road, Behind Oberoi Mall, Goregaon East, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400063 ...Respondent No. 38
10. Mr. Pushpinder Kumar Salwan, S/o Mr. Vidya Sagar Salwan, Aged about 57 years, Residing at 9-A, Kalyani View, Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar, Kiccha, Uttarakhand - 263153 ...Respondent No. 39
11. Mrs. Renuka Salwan a.k.a Renu, W/o Mr. Pushpinder Kumar Salwan, Aged about 51 years, Represented by Mr. Pushpinder Kumar Salwan, Residing at 9-A, Kalyani View, Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar, Kiccha, Uttarakhand - 263153. ...Respondent No. 40
12. Mr. Soudagar Khaja Atahar Parvez, S/o Mr. S.K. Yusuff, Aged about 54 years, R/at 6-2-104, Kovuar Nagar, Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh - 515001. ...Respondent No. 44
13. Mrs. Sulakshmi Nagpal, W/o Mr. Summet Nagpal, Aged about 36 years, R/at No. 737-738, Sector-14, Escorts Nagar, Faridabad, Haryana-121007. ...Respondent No.55
14. Mrs. Uddaraju Anasuya, W/o Mr. Uddaraju Bala Rama Raju, Aged about 72 years, Residing at No. 2-92, A-Zone, Sujatha Nagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 530051 ...Respondent No. 61
15. Mrs. Yamanamanda Jhansi, W/o Mr. Yamanamanda Lacchiraju, Aged about 70 years, Residing at No. 130138, Ramaraju Meraka, Kesanakurrupalem, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh - 533220. ...Respondent No. 66
Whereas the above-named Plaintiffs instituted a suit against you with a prayer to declare the JDA dated 11-09-2013 bearing document No.BYP-1-04458-2013-14, GPA dated 11-09-2013 as well as the Sale Deeds executed by Defendants No.1 to 6 as being vitiated by fraud and misrepresentation and as null and void ab-initio. Additionally, with a prayer for the grant of perpetual injunction restraining all Defendants herein either directly or through anyone on their behalf from entering the Suit Schedule Property.
You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on 27/09/2023, at 11:00 a.m., in person or through Advocate or Pleader to answer the questions with respect to the same. Failing which the Suit shall be heard and determined in your absence, ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 07 day of September, 2023.
S A PARTNERS, (ADVOCATES), Ajith Anand Shetty - FOR PLAINTIFFS,
No.71, 66th Cross, 12th Main
Rajajinagar, 5th Block, Bangalore - 560010

MOSCOW

Russia claims Ukrainian drones destroyed in Crimea, Black Sea

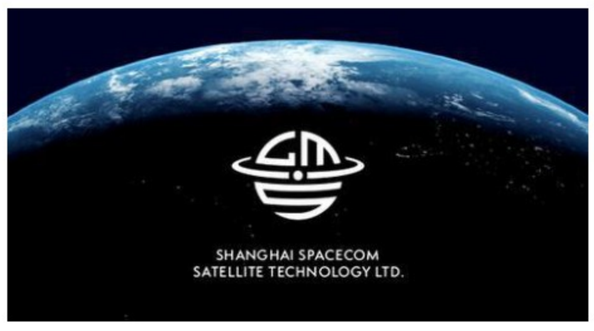


REUTERS

Russia said it destroyed nearly two dozen Ukrainian drones trying to hit Moscow-annexed Crimea, patrol ships in the Black Sea and border regions on Thursday. At about 5.30 a.m. on Thursday, "air defence systems on duty destroyed 11 unmanned aerial vehicles" over the Crimean peninsula, Russia's Defence Ministry said. AFP

FRANKFURT

Germany blocks full Chinese takeover of satellite start-up



According to reports, Shanghai Spacecom Satellite Technology (SSST) holds about 53% of KLEO Connect, the German space telecommunications company and wanted to acquire another 45%. But Berlin blocked SSST's move after a review by the Economy Ministry concluded that it could endanger public security. AFP

PARIS

Iran Revolutionary Guards chief targeted in French criminal plaint

REUTERS

The commander-in-chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, Hossein Salami, is one of three senior officials targeted in a rare criminal complaint filed with Paris prosecutors on Thursday. Mr. Salami is accused of "death threats and justifying terrorism," a lawyer for the six Iranian and Franco-Iranian plaintiffs said. AFP

BANGKOK

Suu Kyi's party says Myanmar junta depriving her of medical care

AFP

Myanmar's junta is endangering the life of jailed democracy figurehead Aung San Suu Kyi, her political party, National League for Democracy, said on Thursday, accusing the military of depriving her of medical care. Recently, local media had reported of her suffering dizzy spells and vomiting because of a tooth infection.

Global aid effort intensifies for flood-battered Libya

Hundreds of body bags now line Derna's mud-caked streets awaiting mass burials; access to Derna in the east remains severely hampered as roads and bridges have been destroyed

Agence France-Presse
DERNA

A global aid effort for Libya gathered pace on Thursday after a tsunami-sized flash flood killed at least 4,000 people, with thousands more missing – a death toll the UN blamed in part on the legacy of years of war and chaos.

The enormous surge of storm water burst two upstream river dams late on Sunday and reduced the city of Derna to an apocalyptic wasteland where entire city blocks and untold numbers of people were washed into the Mediterranean.

The UN World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) said most of the deaths could have been avoided if early warning and emergency management systems had functioned properly in the war-scarred country.

Washed away: Destruction in the wake of floods after the Mediterranean storm *Daniel* hit Libya's eastern city of Derna. AFP

With better coordination, "they could have issued the warnings and the emergency management forces would have been able to carry out the evacuation of the people, and we could have avoided most of the human casualties," said its chief Petteri Taalas.

Hundreds of body bags now line Derna's mud-caked streets, awaiting mass burials, as traumatised and grieving residents search mangled buildings for missing loved ones and bulldozers clear streets of debris and mountains of sand.

The UN, the United States, European Union and multiple Middle Eastern and North African nations have pledged to send rescue teams and aid including food, water tanks, emergency shelters, medical supplies and more body bags.

Access to Derna in the east remains severely hampered as roads and bridges have been destroyed and power and phone lines cut.

'Most of Libya flood loss could have been avoided'

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

The United Nations said on Thursday that most of the thousands of deaths in Libya's flood disaster could have been averted if early warning and emergency management systems had functioned properly.

With better functioning coordination in the crisis-wracked country, the human toll could have been far smaller, the UN's World Meteorological Organisation said. It warned that other conflict-hit countries faced similar, dangerous deficiencies to their early warning systems.

If the system in Libya had worked properly, "the emergency management forces would have been able to carry out the evacuation," WMO chief said.

Kim invites Putin to visit N. Korea during rare summit

Reuters
SEOUL/MOSCOW

Kim Jong-un invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to visit North Korea during a rare summit, stoking U.S. concerns that a revived Moscow-Pyongyang axis could bolster Russia's military in Ukraine and provide Mr. Kim sensitive missile technology.

Mr. Putin accepted the invitation, according to North Korean state news agency *KCNA*, though there was no immediate confirmation from the Kremlin. Since Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Mr. Putin has rarely travelled abroad.

Calling each other "comrades", the two leaders toasted to their friendship on Wednesday with Russian wine after the 70-year-old Putin showed Mr. Kim, 39, around Russia's most modern space launch facility and they held talks alongside their Defence Ministers.

Kim Jong-un

"At the end of the reception, Kim Jong Un courteously invited Mr. Putin to visit the DPRK at a convenient time," *KCNA* said, referring to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, North Korea's formal name.

"Mr. Putin accepted the invitation with pleasure and reaffirmed his will to invariably carry forward the history and tradition of the Russia-DPRK friendship," *KCNA* said.

For the United States and allies, the burgeoning friendship between Mr. Kim and Mr. Putin is a concern: Washington has accused North Korea of providing arms to Russia, but it is unclear whether any deliveries have been made.

Both Russia and North Korea have denied those claims, but promised to deepen defence cooperation, and during a visit to North Korea in July, Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu was shown banned ballistic missiles by Mr. Kim.

Mr. Kim is due on Thursday to visit military and civilian aviation factories in the Russian city of Komsomolsk-on-Amur and to inspect Russia's Pacific fleet in Vladivostok, Mr. Putin said.

Bangladesh court jails top rights activists

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

A Bangladesh court on Thursday sentenced two leading human rights activists to two years each in jail, after a trial critics say is part of a government crackdown ahead of elections.

Adilur Rahman Khan, 63, and Nasiruddin Elan, 57, have led the Odhikar organisation for decades, working to document thousands of alleged extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances of Opposition activists, and police brutalities.

The criminal charges against Khan and Elan related to a fact-finding report they compiled 10 years ago on extrajudicial killings.

"They were sentenced to two years in jail for publishing and circulating false information, hurting religious sentiments and undermining the image of the state," prosecutor Nazrul Islam Shamim said.

Several Western governments have expressed concern over the political climate in Bangladesh, where the ruling party runs the legislature as a rubber stamp.

Hunter Biden indicted on three counts of federal firearms charges

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Hunter Biden was indicted on Thursday on federal firearms charges, the latest and weightiest step yet in a long-running investigation into the President's son.

Mr. Biden is accused of lying about his drug use when he bought a firearm in October 2018, a period when he has acknowledged struggling with addiction to crack cocaine, according to the indictment filed in federal court in Delaware.

President Joe Biden's son has also been under investigation for his business dealings. The special counsel overseeing the case has indicated that charges of failure to pay taxes on time could be filed in Washington or in California.

Hunter Biden

The indictment comes as congressional Republicans pursue an impeachment inquiry into the Democratic President, in large part over Mr. Hunter Biden's business dealings.

The three-count indictment says Hunter Biden lied on a form required for every gun purchase when he bought a Colt Cobra Special in October 2018.

He is charged with two counts of making false statements, by falsely saying he was not a user of or addicted to drugs and of illegally possessing the gun as a drug user and a third count for possessing the gun as a drug user.

NASA's UFO report out after one year

Associated Press
CAPE CANAVERAL

NASA said on Thursday that the study of UFOs will require new scientific techniques, including advanced satellites as well as a shift in how unidentified flying objects are perceived. The space agency released the findings after a yearlong study into UFOs.

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said the panel found no evidence that UAPs (Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena) had extraterrestrial origin.

Maldives frontrunner eyes ties with China

Agence France-Presse
COLOMBO

The Maldives stands at a geopolitical crossroads ahead of its presidential run-off vote with the frontrunner, a former construction minister, set on demolishing India's influence and building stronger ties with China.

The archipelago nation, better known for its upmarket beach resorts and celebrity vacationers, sits in a strategically vital position in the middle of the Indian Ocean astride one of the world's busiest east-west shipping lanes.

The vote on the chain of atolls – scattered some 800 km across the equator – takes place with growing Western concern at China's growing assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific, with rival India part of the Quad, a strategic alliance alongside the United States, Australia and Japan.

Frontrunner Mohamed Muizzu is the protege of former leader Abdulla Yameen, who steered the archipelago towards Beijing's orbit while in office and became an eager recipient of financial largesse from China's Belt and Road infrastructure programme.

Sport

High performance camp for Indian squash players begins in right earnest

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

The outside courts of the Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy were buzzing with activity on Thursday as two former World squash champions sparred with Indian players.

England's James Willstrop and Gregory Gaultier of France had intense sessions with Anahat Singh and Joshna Chinappafor around 40 minutes. The mixed doubles pair of Dipika Pallikal and Harinderpal Singh sparred with ISA player Vikas Mehra and Scotland's Rory Stewart, the reigning World doubles silver medallist. Mahesh Mangaonkar had a session with Gaultier while Tanvi Khanna, India No. 1, practised with K. S. Arihant, an ISA player. The High Performance Camp, organised by Squash Rackets Federation and supported by HCL and SAI, for Indians had well and truly begun.

Hard at work: Joshna and Gaultier at the camp on Thursday. R. RAGU

Joshna, who is playing in team and singles events at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games, said it was great to play with Greg. "He is a former world champion and World No. 1. He's working with top players including Mohd. El Shorbagy, Noor El Sherbini and has had great results. The few sessions I've had with him have been intense and sharpened my game."

Joshna, who will be competing in her sixth consecutive Asian Games, felt that both her events at Hangzhou will be tough right from the first round.

Willstrop, who has been coaching Saurav Ghosal, said he will help the Indians understand what it is to play a big event.

"It's all about fine-tuning their game. We hope to provide our experience in big match situations," said Willstrop, the 40-year-old who is still quite active on the PSA tour.

Tejaswini takes one-point lead into the final round; four-way tie in the open section

ASIAN JUNIOR CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar
JAMSHEDPUR

She blundered from a winning position, but her opponent paid back the compliment immediately, missing out on the chance to draw. G. Tejaswini pounced on that lucky break, went on to defeat Bristy Mukherjee and took a full one-point lead into the final round of the Tata Steel Asian junior girls' chess championship.

The 16-year-old from Chennai is on seven points after Thursday's eighth round and needs only a draw in the last round to win the title. The game lasted 95 moves and checkmate was just one when Bristy resigned. "I had the advantage long before and should have won earlier," Tejaswini said. Top seed Nazerke Nurgali of Kazakhstan, third seed Bommini Mounika Akshaya and Bristy are second with six points apiece.

Deep in thought: Tejaswini, left, beat Bristy to go to the top. P.K. AJITH KUMAR

In the open section, four players are in the lead, with six points each – top seed Aleksey Grebnev from Russia, S. Rohith Krishna, Ayush Sharma and S. Aswath.

Important results (eighth round): Open: S. Rohith Krishna 6 drew with Aleksey Grebnev (FIDE) 6; Manish Cristiano 5.5 drew with S. Aswath 6; Sambit Panda 5.5 drew with L. Srihari 5.5; Gilbert Tarigan 4.5 lost to Ayush Sharma 6; Zhangir Bizhigitov (Kaz) 5 drew with L.R. Srihari 5; Kushagra Mohan 4.5 lost to Ajay Parvathareddy 5.5; Mayank Chakraborty 5.5 bt Ritvik Krishnan 4.5; Alekhya Mukhopadhyay 5.5 bt Avinash Ramesh 4.5; M. Mohamed Anees 4 lost to Dilshan Liyanage (SL) 5; Arjun Adireddy 4 lost to Tahsin Zia (Ban) 5; Reja Neer Manon 4.5 drew with Abdilkhair Abilmansur (Kaz) 4.5; B. Vignesh 3.5 lost to Dhyey Agarwal 5.
Girls: G. Tejaswini 7 bt Bristy Mukherjee 6; Nazerke Nurgali (Kaz) 6 drew with Bommini Mounika Akshaya 6; Mrittika Mallick 5.5 drew with Mrudul Dehankar 5.5; Saina Salonika 5.5 bt Sherali Pattnaik 4.5.
Zeinep Sultanbek (Kaz) 4.5 lost to Ayaulym Kaldarova (Kaz) 5.5; Divya Patil 4.5 lost to Anastasia Ivanova (FIDE) 5.5; Shubhi Gupta 5 drew with Keerti Reddy 5; V. Rindhiya 5 bt Dhanashree Khairmode 4; Bhagyashree Patil 5 bt Dahamadi Sanudula (SL) 4; M.K. Poorna Sri 5 bt Kriti Patel 4.5.

HIGH PRAISE

Sachin Tendulkar was a genius from day one, says Muralitharan

Sri Lankan spin legend Muttiah Muralitharan said Sachin Tendulkar was a "genius from day one" and no cricketer can be like the Indian batting maestro. Muralitharan told *ANI* that the upcoming biopic '800' is not only about his cricket but also about what happened beyond the game.

SPEED MACHINES

MotoGP bikes land in New Delhi, transported to the Buddh Circuit

The first batch of equipment for the MotoGP Bharat arrived at the Buddh International Circuit (BIC) on Thursday. With just a week left for the race, superbikes, their engines, tyres and safety barriers landed in New Delhi via air freight and were transported to the venue under heavy police security.

SAME TEAM

Bottas and Zhou to stay with Alfa Romeo for 2024 season

Alfa Romeo is keeping an unchanged driver line-up for the third year running after announcing on Thursday that Valtteri Bottas and Zhou Guanyu will stay for the 2024 season. The extension will allow Zhou, the first Chinese driver in F1, to finally race at his home GP in Shanghai after it was cancelled in the 2022 and 2023 seasons.

UP FOR IT

Davis Cup not played on rankings, we have come to compete: Tahiri

Morocco skipper Mehdi Tahiri *(right, in pic)* said his team was determined to do well against India in the World Group II tie in Lucknow during the weekend. "Davis Cup is not played on rankings. We have come here to compete. We may be the underdogs, but matches are not won on paper by rankings, it's won on the court."

Mendis and Asalanka script a thrilling win

The Lankan No. 3 anchors the chase with a 87-ball 91 before the left-hander holds centrestage and takes the team home off the final ball; Rizwan, Iftikhar's knocks not enough for Pakistan

ASIA CUP

Dhruva Prasad
COLOMBO

After displaying a clinical approach in its run-chase, Sri Lanka's nerves showed towards the end in a two-wicket win over Pakistan at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Thursday as it booked a date with India in the final of the Asia Cup.

The host lost five wickets for 36 runs and was forced to scramble over the line, into the teeth of a thrilling final over, bowled by Zaman Khan.

Defending seven runs, the debutant conceded just two runs off the first four balls before the ball took the edge of Charith Asalanka's blade and went for a boundary. With two needed off the last delivery, Zaman fatally strayed on the pads and the left-hander flicked it for a couple amidst the deafening roar of a capacity crowd.

Before the chaos, Kusal Mendis and Sadeera Samarawickrama's 100-run partnership for the third wicket was a lesson in setting up a chase. The duo ran hard to pick up the ones and twos when the spinners operated in tandem and hit the odd boundary when they missed their lengths to ensure that the asking rate never got out of hand.

The injection of intent came from openers Kusal Perera and Pathum Nissanka, who fetched a flurry of boundaries with the aim to keep abreast of the DLS par score in a rain-hit game.

Star performer: Kusal Mendis powered the chase with a superb knock, pushing Rizwan's effort earlier in the day to the background. AP

Earlier, after electing to bat following a two-hour 15-minute delay in the start of play due to rain, Pakistan found itself floundering at 130 for five in the 28th over when the heavens opened again.

On either side of a 30-minute rain-break, Pakistan's innings was a tale of two halves. Mohammad Rizwan (86 n.o., 73b, 6x4, 2x6) and Iftikhar Ahmed's (47, 40b, 4x4, 2x6) 108-run partnership helped Pakistan ransack 122 off 86 after the interruption.

The pitch seemed to have eased up under the covers as Rizwan and Iftikhar cut loose in the first over of pacer Pramod Madushan's second spell, laying into him with a six each. Rizwan showed Dunith Wellalage no respect in the following over, sweeping his flighted deliveries for a six and a four. Matheesha Pathirana was driven and pulled for two boundaries in one over. Maheesh Theekshana, who injured his hamstring while trying to save a boundary, limped through the last three overs of his spell and went for 12 runs off his last.

When Madushan's slower deliveries became too predictable at the death, Iftikhar tonked him for a six to complete a 74-ball century stand with Rizwan, which wasn't enough at the end.

The scores: Pakistan 252/7 in 42 overs (Abdullah Shafique 52, Mohammad Rizwan 86 n.o., Iftikhar Ahmed 47, Matheesha Pathirana 3/65) lost to Sri Lanka 252/8 in 42 overs (Kusal Mendis 91, Sadeera Samarawickrama 48, Charith Asalanka 49 n.o., Iftikhar Ahmed 3/50). **Target: 252 in 42 overs (DLS method).**

Suryakumar could get a chance against Bangladesh

Amol Karhadkar
COLOMBO

Suryakumar Yadav turned 33 on Thursday. But more than the birthday boy, a fellow Mumbaikar was in the spotlight during India's optional training session at the R. Premadasa Stadium.

Shreyas Iyer, who had not left the team hotel following a back spasm before the match against Pakistan last Sunday, knocked a few balls before facing the net bowlers.

The stylish batter's return to the park was heartening. After all, in a tournament when almost all the boxes have been ticked for India, his back flaring up – days after returning to competitive cricket following a back surgery – has been the only area of concern.

Despite returning to the practice arena, Shreyas is unlikely to be drafted in for the last Super Fours game against Bangladesh on Friday.

Impact player: Suryakumar, left, has the credentials to change a game's outcome. AFP

Resting some players

India could also be tempted to rest Jasprit Bumrah, and possibly Hardik Pandya too, with an eye on the biz prize in November. After all, Sunday's final could serve as a curtain-raiser for the World Cup challenge lying ahead for Rohit Sharma and Co.

With only five ODIs – Friday's match, the final and three against Australia – before the World Cup warm-ups towards the month-end, India may opt to play a full-strength side. Still, Mohammed Shami getting game-time and Bumrah taking it easy is also crucial with an eye on the World Cup.

It will be interesting to see if India hands a belated birthday gift to Suryakumar by giving him a chance. The choice between Axar Patel – who looked rusty with the ball against Sri Lanka – and Shardul Thakur at No. 8 will depend on the nature of the pitch.

Bangladesh, meanwhile, will hope to end yet a forgettable campaign on a high. However, the job will be more difficult than it appears, with Mushfiqur Rahim also joining the long list of unavailable players.

The teams (from):
India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), Hardik Pandya, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, K.L. Rahul, Shubman Gill, Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Yadav, Prasidh Krishna.

Bangladesh: Shakib Al Hasan (Capt.), Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Tanzim Hasan, Mohammad Naim, Litton Das (w.k.), Towhid Hridoy, Afif Hossain, Shamim Hossain, Nasum Ahmed, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful Islam, Hasan Mahmud, Mahedi Hasan, Hasan Mahmud.

Match starts at 3 p.m.

TODAY'S MATCH
SUPER 4s
vs.
Colombo, 3 p.m. IST
H2H in ODIs
Played: 39
India 31 | Bangladesh 7 | NR 1

'Shami understands the team's requirements'

Amol Karhadkar
COLOMBO

He is the most experienced bowler in India's pace pack. Still, with the team management's thrust on strengthening its batting order, Mohammed Shami has had to sit out of crucial India games during the ongoing Asia Cup.

With the Indian team management set to stick to the same module for the forthcoming World Cup, bowling coach Paras Mhambrey has stressed that Shami has been spoken to and understands the requirements of the team.

"It's extremely difficult to leave out someone like Shami. You know with the experience he has, the performances he has had for the country, it's phenomenal. So it's never never easy to have that kind of conversation," said Mhambrey on Thursday.

"We are very clear in terms of the way we have gone about the communication we have with the players. Any decision we have taken, the player knows the intent where we come from and anything is for the benefit of the team. So a particular player knows why he is not in the team is a particular reason why he is not in the team and it's always difficult to leave someone like him.

"But I think the requirement at that stage may not be possible to play and he understands that. I think we have been honest with that, the communication and he is very being very reciprocal with it."

Rohan Bopanna – Indian tennis' consummate team man who found the sweet spot

DAVIS CUP

N. Sudarshan
LUCKNOW

One of the biggest dilemmas elite sportspersons face is about the timing of their retirement. Ash Barty walked away at 25 while being World No. 1 and the defending champion at two of the three Majors. Roger Federer - and potentially Rafael Nadal - stopped only when the body couldn't take it any longer.

Rohan Bopanna seems to have found the sweet spot. The doubles star's decision to end his Davis Cup journey with the World Group II tie against Morocco here this weekend comes at a time when he is ranked No. 7 in the world - his highest since Oct. 2013. And two of the five Slam finals he has reached in his career have come in 2023.

But, at 43, he knows that the body can do with a few extra weeks of rest, especially when he wants to prolong his ATP Tour career a bit more. The chance to end it at home has only added to the allure.

"I certainly admire his longevity," former India Davis Cup captain Anand Amritraj told *The Hindu*. "To be 43 and be able to play at this level is incredible. Having had him on my team for five years, [I can say] he's a great guy. He was always helpful when I had to make decisions. He knew the players better than I did. Overall, a very fine person."

Somdev Devvarman, one of India's foremost singles players and Bopanna's teammate for nearly a decade, said the latter was a consummate team man. He also recollected some of his famous singles wins to drive home the point.

"I distinctly remember the away match in South Africa in 2009," said Devvarman. We hadn't made the World Group in a decade. It was a tough tie and Rohan beat Rik de Voest in four sets after losing the first set in like 15 minutes.

Marathon man: To be 43 and be able to play at this level is incredible, says Anand Amritraj about Bopanna. SANDEEP SAXENA

"He had that kind of a game, could play against top players, hang in there and give himself a chance. When I was playing, Rohan played singles with me. He was a mainstay, was always my senior and looked out for us."

The loss of such a player would leave a big hole, Amritraj said. "Whether he played doubles with Leander [Paes], Saketh [Myneni] or Yuki [Bhambri], I, as captain, could always rely on that one point," he said.

In light of the extremely humid conditions prevailing in Lucknow, the start times have been pushed back by two hours
Saturday's matches will begin at 2 p.m. instead of noon and on Sunday, the action will start at 1 p.m.
Bopanna, Nagal, Bhambri, Mukund and Digvijay will line up for the hosts while Benchetrit, Dlimi, Moundir, Ahouda and Laaroussi will lead the visitors' charge

"I was fairly sure that we had that point in the bag, thanks mostly to Rohan. But there's nobody at this point to step into his shoes."

Devvarman, however, felt that it was time for the younger lot to redouble their efforts.

"Rohan has given a lot for the country. Playing 50 ties is crazy. Now, the rest have to step up. The 14 and 15-year-olds should see this as a massive opportunity to be the country's next flag-bearer."

Wenger optimistic about setting up academy in India

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Legendary football coach Arsene Wenger believes "cooperation" and "strong desire" between FIFA and AIFF will be the key to the success of a central academy in India, for which he would visit the country next month.

Wenger, who met All India Football Federation president Kalyan Chaubey and secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran last month in Australia to finalise setting up the academy, said he was "very optimistic" after the meeting.

"I would say that football is the most popular sport in the world and it looks logical that one of the biggest countries in the world has access to football development," Wenger was quoted as saying in an AIFF release.

"The number is an advantage, but the organisation's task gets tougher. 1.4 billion people, I'd say it's a goldmine, but a goldmine which, at the moment, we have not analysed or identified well," he said.

Wenger. FILE PHOTO

"That's why we need people inside the country who know where the talent is. This is why the cooperation between FIFA and the AIFF will be absolutely vital, with a strong desire," he added.

Wenger said apart from identifying talent, AIFF will have to "take charge" of education. "Overall, it's based on two things. First, it's identifying talent. And then the quality of the educational programme and the coaching is absolutely vital. The AIFF has to take charge of the education with us and we need good cooperation," he said.

"We will need to work together with the AIFF to identify the talent first. And after that we have to group the best with the best.

"Under that, you have the grass-roots game for the whole country. The starting point is to identify the talent and put the best with the best together," added Wenger, who plans to visit India in October.

Wenger said despite cricket being India's No 1 sport, there is enough room for other sports too.

"I don't see why India would not be on the world map with the number of players. It's a sporting country," he said.

INBRIEF

Bonucci confirms legal action against Juventus

Leonardo Bonucci has confirmed that he is taking legal action against Juventus, claiming that the Serie A club has not told the truth about its treatment of him after he was frozen out and eventually sold over the summer. The veteran defender was shunted aside in pre-season.

Simran-Ritika duo in last eight of Vietnam Open badminton

The women's doubles pair of Simran Singhi and Ritika Thaker kept India's flag fluttering at the Vietnam Open Super 100 badminton tournament by progressing to the quarterfinals here on Thursday. Simran and Ritika, seeded third, beat the Malaysian pair of Lee Zhi Qing and Desiree Hao Shan Siow 21-10 21-18 in the second round.

The results: Women: Thet Htar Thuzar bt Aditi Bhatt 21-14, 23-21; Manami Suizu bt Tanya Hemanth 21-17, 21-12.

Doubles: Simran Singhi & Ritika Thaker bt Lee Zhi Qing & Desiree Hao Shan Siow 21-10 21-18; Hung En-Tzu & Lin Yu-Pei bt Kavya Gupta & Deepshikha Singh 21-15, 21-13.

Mixed doubles: Hiroki Nishi & Akari Sato bt Bokka Navaneeth & Kukkapalli Maneesha 21-11 21-6; Lin Bing Wei & Lin Chih Chun Chanayat Joshi & Kavya Gupta 21-11, 21-17; Morz Reza Pahlevi Isfah & Marsheilla Gischa Islami bt Satish Kumar Karunakara & Aadya Variyath 21-16, 21-15.

CA makes neck guards mandatory against pacers

Australian batters will have to wear neck protectors on their helmets when facing fast or medium-pace bowlers for the 2023/24 season, Cricket Australia announced on Thursday. The decision comes a week after Australian all-rounder Cameron Green had to leave the field with concussion after a bouncer hit the side of his helmet during his team's win over South Africa in a one-day international match.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Sean Pratyush is Bangalore City's hero against President's XI

Sean Pratyush (161 n.o.) starred for Bangalore City against President's XI in the KSCA under-16 inter-zonal tournament here.

The scores: President's XI 199 in 68.4 overs (K.P. Ahan 44, Rehan Mohammed 43, Gagan Sai 25, Advaith Karthik 3/45, Milan Dhami 3/26) and 111 for no loss in 31 overs (R. Shiv 65 n.o., Rehan Mohammed 46 n.o.) drew with Bangalore City XI 244 in 88.5 overs (Sean Pratyush 161 n.o., Bhuvan Gowda 28, Gagan Sai 3/56, Pratyush Gupta 5/34).

Raichur Zone 229/9 in 90 overs (Aniketh Reddy 65, Basava Chetan 33, Adarsh Rathod 34 n.o., Sainath Rajoli 3/25) and 78/9 in 36 overs (Sainath Rajoli 3/13) drew with Dharwad Zone 135 in 48.3 overs (Shubam Khot 42, Ashutosh Hiremath 37, Samarth Kulkarni 4/32).

Vice President's XI 205 in 60.5 overs (Amogh Shetty 38, Jayan Samyog 42, V. Srithan 64, Mohammad Zain 3/39, R.B. Tejas 3/29) and 154/3 decl. in 32.4 overs (Amogh Shetty 87, Talha Sheriff 29, Jayan Samyog 27, Nischal Gowda 3/15) drew with Shivamogga Zone 56 in 33 overs (Vijay Maller 5/17) and 151/6 in 52 overs (M.C. Mourya 45, H. Vishwa 3/6).

Mangalore Zone 90 in 46.5 overs (Eshan Baglody 27 n.o., P. Dhakshath 4/18) and 78 in 42 overs (Tharun Kumar 4/19) lost to Mysore Zone 245/9 decl. in 82.3 overs (Akshay Rangan 89, Athish Karthik 50, Dhyaan Mahesh 52, Ayaan Sharmod 3/49).

Combined City XI 187 in 64.3 overs (R. Parth 42, S. Abhiraj 47, Bhuvan Roddam 51, A.A. Rohith 3/16) and 113/3 decl. in 35 overs (R. Parth 55 n.o.) drew with Tumkur Zone 95 in 60.2 overs (Sai Kritin 4/18, Ayush Ponnappa 3/12) and 40/1 in 24 overs.

Secretary's XI 240/9 in 90 overs (H. Rithvik 90, Manish Benjamin 75, Vidhur Reddy 3/34, B.R. Rathan 3/33) drew Bangalore Zone 258/7 in 90 overs (M. Assad 25, Vrateen Prashant 70, Kutam Charan 83 n.o., C. Vaibhav 3/60).

Sean (Bangalore City, 161 n.o.).

Narrow win for Bangalore Independents

Bangalore Independents FC edged out Young Challengers 1-0 in the Super Division football league on Thursday.

The results: Bangalore Independents FC 1 (S. Novel 60) bt Young Challengers FC 0; Sporting Club Bengaluru 3 (V. Vignesh 9, S. Umair 19, S. Arif 64) bt FC Deccan 0.

Kemp edges out Bengaluru FC

Kemp FC took out Bengaluru FC 3-2 in the KSFA Karnataka women's football league here.

The result: Kemp FC 3 (Nandini 43, 90, M. Anusha 90) bt Bengaluru FC 2 (P. Susmitha 41, Chinmayi Tili 32).

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: Hong Kong Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 9 a.m. & 4 p.m.

Asia Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3 p.m.

South Africa vs Australia: 4th ODI, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), Hotstar & FanCode, 4.30 p.m.

England vs New Zealand: 4th ODI, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5 p.m.

Davis Cup: (Group stage, finals), Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30 p.m.

La Liga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Leather Back primed to deliver in the F.K. Irani Memorial Million

RACING

MYSURU: Leather Back, who is in fine nick, may score an encore in the F.K. Irani Memorial Million (1,200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Friday (Sept. 15). False rails (width about 2.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 SHIVAKASHI PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. War Song (12) Kiran Rai 61.5, 2. D Fighter (7) S. Qureshi 60.5, 3. Many Moons (6) Abhishek Mhatre 60, 4. Rumour Lady (2) Tousif 60, 5. Sultan Sword (4) Md. Mushraf 59, 6. D Golden Cup (8) Koshi K 58.5, 7. Country's Major (3) G. Vivek 57, 8. Here I Come (9) R. Shiva K 56.5, 9. Lead Singer (5) R. Pradeep 56.5, 10. Natural Speed (10) Inayat 56, 11. Like My Daddy (11) M. Shahid 54 and 12. Infinite Grace (1) P. Sai K 51.5.

1. INFINITE GRACE,
2. WAR SONG,
3. RUMOUR LADY

2 PADDOCK PLATE (1,600m), rated 00 to 25, 2-30: 1. Ultimate Ruler (1) Ashok K 62, 2. War Trail (4) P. Sai K 61.5, 3. Squanto (8) Prabhu K 60.5, 4. Angelic Star (10) Jagadeesh 59.5, 5. Southernaristocrat (15) Antony 59, 6. Elite Agent (14) Angad 58.5, 7. Natural Fly (3) Inayat 58.5, 8. Against All Odds (13) Arshad 58, 9. Pettes Love (6) Arvind K 58, 10. Miss China (7) Md. Sameer 57.5, 11. News Maker (5) S. Qureshi 57.5, 12. The Intruder (9) R. Pradeep 57.5, 13. Marco Polo (11) Syed Imran 56.5, 14. Twin Flame (2) Kiran Rai 56 and 15. Airvelocity (12) M. Shahid 54.5.

1. SOUTHERNARISTOCRAT,
2. PETTES LOVE,
3. THE INTRUDER

3 POLICE TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-00: 1. Archway (7) S. John 61, 2. Real Show (4) Angad 56.5, 3. Galaticus (5) Suraj 55.5, 4. Wood Art (1) Faiz 55, 5. Able One (9) Syed Imran 53, 6. Cash Out (10) P. Surya 53, 7. First Impression (8) Kiran Rai 53, 8. Yasmine From York (12) Hasib Alam 53, 9. Infiniteposibility (2) R. Shiva K 52.5, 10. Spiritual Force (11) Arshad 51, 11. The Omega Man (3) Shreyas S 51 and 12. Spirit Of The Rose (6) G. Vivek 50.5.

1. GALATICUS, 2. ARCHWAY,
3. SPIRIT OF THE ROSE

4 M.W.CHINNAPPA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 & above, 3-30: 1. Segera (5) Prabhu K 69.5, 2. Fun And Laughter (6) Tousif 67.5, 3. Dandi Satyagraha (7) G. Umesh 63.5, 4. Michigan Melody (8) Srinath 58, 5. Perfect Perfecto (4) R. Shiva K 56, 6. English Bay (2) G. Vivek 55.5, 7. Aldgate (10) Antony 55, 8. King T'Chala (1) Arshad 54.5, 9. Gemini (11) A. Baandal 54, 10. Cletus (9) B. Dharshan 52.5 and 11. Eternal Princess (3) Vinod Shinde 52.5.

1. ALDGATE, 2. ENGLISH BAY,
3. MICHIGAN MELODY

5 F.K. IRANI MEMORIAL MILLION (1,200m), 3-y-o only, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Long Lease (4) Suraj 57, 2. Leather Back (3) Srinath 56.5, 3. Moriset (2) Antony 56.5, 4. Fondness Of You (1) Vinod Shinde 55 and 5. Brave Trooper (5) P.P. Dhebe 53.5.

1. LEATHER BACK,
2. LONG LEASE

6 YELAHANKA PLATE (1,100m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Court Jester (8) Faiz 62.5, 2. Elusive Girl (3) Jagadeesh 60.5, 3. Mark One (9) Ram Nandan 60, 4. Biometric (6) Imran Ashraf 59.5, 5. Viva La Vida (12) G. Vivek 59, 6. Revelator (1) Md. Mushraf 58.5, 7. Furious Fun (11) T. Pavan 56.5, 8. Rising Sun (10) Angad 56, 9. Indian Glory (2) Abhishek Mhatre 55, 10. Beat The Odds (7) R. Shiva K 53, 11. N R I Millennium (4) M. Shahid 52 and 12. Copper Sunrise (5) Kiran Rai 51.

1. COPPER SUNRISE,
2. FURIOUS FUN, 3. MARK ONE

7 JOG FALLS PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Free Spirited (12) B. Dharshan 60, 2. Article Fifteen (5) A. Baandal 58.5, 3. Coyote Girl (9) Md. Sameer 58.5, 4. My Life My Rules (11) Hasib Alam 57.5, 5. Sarvottam (4) Koshi K 57, 6. Natural Gold (6) Inayat 55.5, 7. Vijaya Sarathi (1) Angad 55.5, 8. Antinori (7) Jagadeesh 54.5, 9. Kesari Queen (3) Salman Khan 54.5, 10. O Manchali (2) Imran Ashraf 54, 11. Blessing Bolt (–) (–) 53.5, 12. Sky Storm (10) M. Prabhakaran 53.5 and 13. Shivalik Sound (8) R. Shiva K 51.5.

1. FREE SPIRITED, 2. VIJAYA SARATHI, 3. SARVOTHAM

Day's best: **GALATICUS**

Double: **SOUTHERNARISTOCRAT – LEATHER BACK**

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Mini Jackpot: 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Shubankar takes the honours in Dennis & Yvonne Jarvis Memorial Cup

MYSURU: Mr. Laksh Bhatia's Shubankar (A. Merchant up) won the Dennis & Yvonne Jarvis Memorial Cup, the main event of the races held here on Thursday (Sept. 14). The winner is trained by Warren Singh.

THE RESULTS:

1. SQUANDERER PLATE (DIV. II): JAGUAR (T. Pavan) 1, Perfect Halo (M. Rajesh K) 2, Star Citizen (Hindu S) 3 and Sky Princess (R. Pradeep) 4. 4-3/4, 1-1/2 and 1-1/2. 1m, 05.78s. ₹102 (w), 23, 12 and 18 (p), SHP: 35, THP: 50, FP: 1,072, Q: 445, Trinella: 11,188, Exacta: 5,472 (carried over). Favourite: Sky Princess. Owner: Mr. G.K. Tharwani. Trainer: G.T. Surender.

2. SQUANDERER PLATE (DIV. I): TREASURE CHEST (Inayat) 1, Pette's Choice (Jagadeesh) 2, Dawn Rising (Rayan) 3 and Air Blast (Tauseef) 4. Not run: Bellissimo. 1-1/2, Nk and 2-1/2. 1m, 06.48s. ₹17 (w), 14, 16 and 21 (p), SHP: 41, THP: 37, FP: 73, Q: 53, Trinella: 424, Exacta: 1,286. Favourite: Treasure Chest. Owner: Mr. H. Thambuswamy. Trainer: S. Dominic.

3. REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. II): SHEER BLISS (P. Siddaraju) 1, Star Speck (Koshi K) 2, Avicena (Antony) 3 and Polar Queen (L.A. Rozario) 4. Not run: The Lady Emporio. 1/2, 1/2 and 4-1/2. 1m, 12.52s. ₹20 (w), 11, 16 and 13 (p), SHP: 41, THP: 37, FP: 122, Q: 71, Trinella: 326, Exacta: 874. Favourite: Sheer Bliss. Owners: Mr. S. Raghu, Mr. P. Santhosh & Mr. P. Ramesh Naidu. Trainer: S. Narredu.

4. M.S.SURESH MEMORIAL TROPHY: IRON CLAD (P. Sai K) 1, Guiding Force (A. Baandal) 2, Prime Abbess (G. Vivek) 3 and Mazal Tov (Hindu S) 4. Not run: Analect. 2-1/2, 1-1/4 and 1-3/4. 1m, 23.79s. ₹25 (w), 13, 58 and 24 (p), SHP: 153, THP: 48, FP: 738, Q: 451, Trinella: 4,484, Exacta: 28,158. Favourite: Mazal Tov. Owner: Mr. Sharat Kumar. Trainer: S. Santosh Rao.

5. DENNIS & YVONNE JARVIS MEMORIAL CUP: SHUBANKAR (A. Merchant) 1, Cyrenius (G. Vivek) 2, King Louis (Hindu S) 3 and Achook (S. Saqlain) 4. 1/2, 3-1/4 and 8-3/4. 1m, 35.78s. ₹41 (w), 11, 21 and 12 (p), SHP: 51, THP: 55, FP: 363, Q: 111, Trinella: 511, Exacta: 1,472. Favourite: King Louis. Owner: Mr. Laksh Bhatia. Trainer: Warren Singh.

6. TALAKADU PLATE: DALLAS (Afsar Khan) 1, Break Away (Angad) 2, Natural One (Inayat) 3 and Miraculous Girl (Gautam Raj) 4. Not run: N R I Touch. 3-1/2, Hd and 1-1/2. 1m, 25.21s. ₹90 (w), 31, 17 and 13 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 48, FP: 923, Q: 610, Trinella: 3,596, Exacta: 29,085 (carried over). Favourite: Natural One. Owner: Mr. M.G. Raghu. Trainer: G. Srinivas Babu.

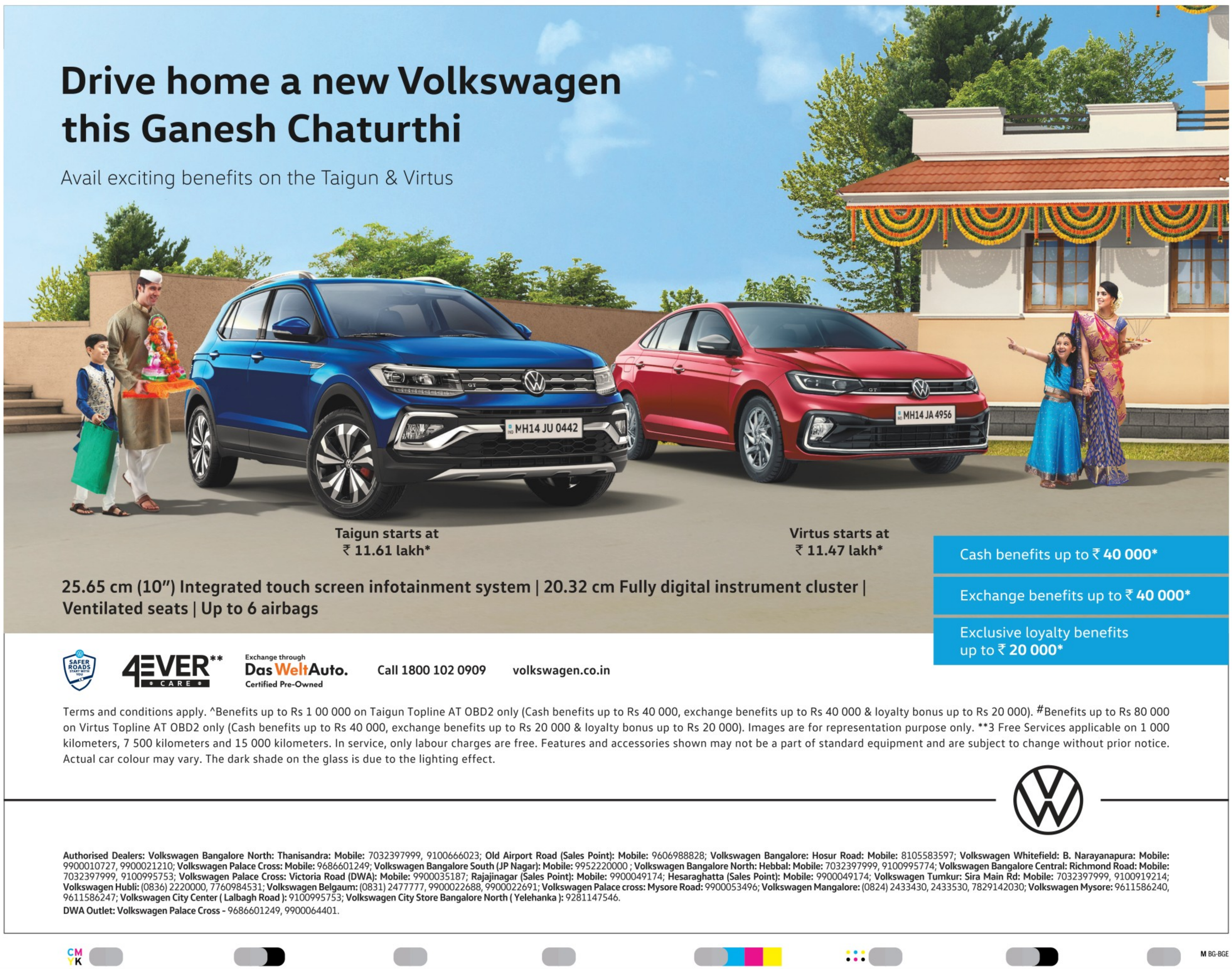
7. REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. I): OSIRIS (M. Naveen) 1, Tenali (Kiran Rai) 2, Ooh La La (Md. Aliyar) 3 and Grizzly (G. Vivek) 4. Not run: The Strikingly. Shd, 2-1/4 and 1-3/4. 1m, 12.26s. ₹113 (w), 26, 10 and 16 (p), SHP: 26, THP: 42, FP: 492, Q: 476, Trinella: 1,266, Exacta: 5,318 (carried over). Favourite: Ooh La La. Owners: Mr. M. Lakshminarayana, Mr. M. Venkatarama & Mr. R.N. Vijaya Kumar. Trainer: Sharat Kumar.

Jackpot: ₹24,396 (carried over); runner-up: 10,455 (one tkt.); mini Jackpot: 5,778 (carried over); treble (i): 49 (21 tkts); (ii): 4,488 (carried over).

Indian challenge ends

HONG KONG OPEN

Press Trust of India
KOWLOON (HONG KONG)

India's challenge at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 tournament ended after two doubles pairs lost in the pre-quarterfinals on Thursday.

Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand were no match for Indonesia's Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ranadhanti, losing 8-21, 14-21, while Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa went down against top seeds Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahar of Japan 18-21, 7-21.